



A HISTORY OF  
LA BREA LODGE  
No. 650 F. & A. M.



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A HISTORY OF LA BREA LODGE No. 650







# A HISTORY OF LA BREA LODGE

No. 650

Free and Accepted Masons  
of California

1926 to 1954



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1954

## DEDICATION

To that group of Foresighted Masons  
who laid the cornerstone upon which  
La Brea Lodge No. 650, F. & A.M.  
was builded we dedicated this  
Book of History



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H.J. BARTON

J.O. BURNETT

B.A. BURTON

R.C. BURTON

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F.N. SCHEPHER

A.L. WILSON

A.C.P. ZUENER

CHARTER MEMBERS & FIRST OFFICERS  
**La Brea Lodge No. 650**  
**F. & A. M.**  
 INSTITUTED AUG. 26, 1926.

Charter Members of La Brea Lodge No. 650, F. & A. M.

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# Foreword

LA BREA LODGE NO. 650

First Meeting, May 11, 1926

Dispensation, Issued October 5, 1926

Instituted, November 16, 1926

Constituted, October 13, 1927.

First Annual Meeting, November 15, 1927

To those of you who are interested in historical data, the above information is offered as proof of the results of fraternal companionship. To those whose fancies are prone to dwell upon the romance of the past, let it be recorded that the above events, and all of them, pale into insignificance when one delves into that glorious past wherein is recorded all those important happenings which took place prior to May 11, 1926, and which formed the real basis upon which we find erected the La Brea of today—events recorded only in the Memory Book of those concerning whom we have penned the lines herein.

We offer this word panorama and portray the trials and tribulations, as well as the real joy and satisfaction of those Masonic Pioneers whose zeal for Masonry has made it possible for you of La Brea to truthfully assert, "My Brother, Masonic Life begins at 650!"

We are greatly indebted to many Brethren for their wise guidance and constructive suggestions in the collection of the historical facts upon which our beloved Lodge has so well builded, and we wish that space permitted the naming of those who so greatly contributed of their time and efforts, but for the present we humbly thank one and all and request their indulgence in not setting forth their names in this Foreword, as their acts and deeds will be revealed in this volume as it unfolds the history of old "La Brea."

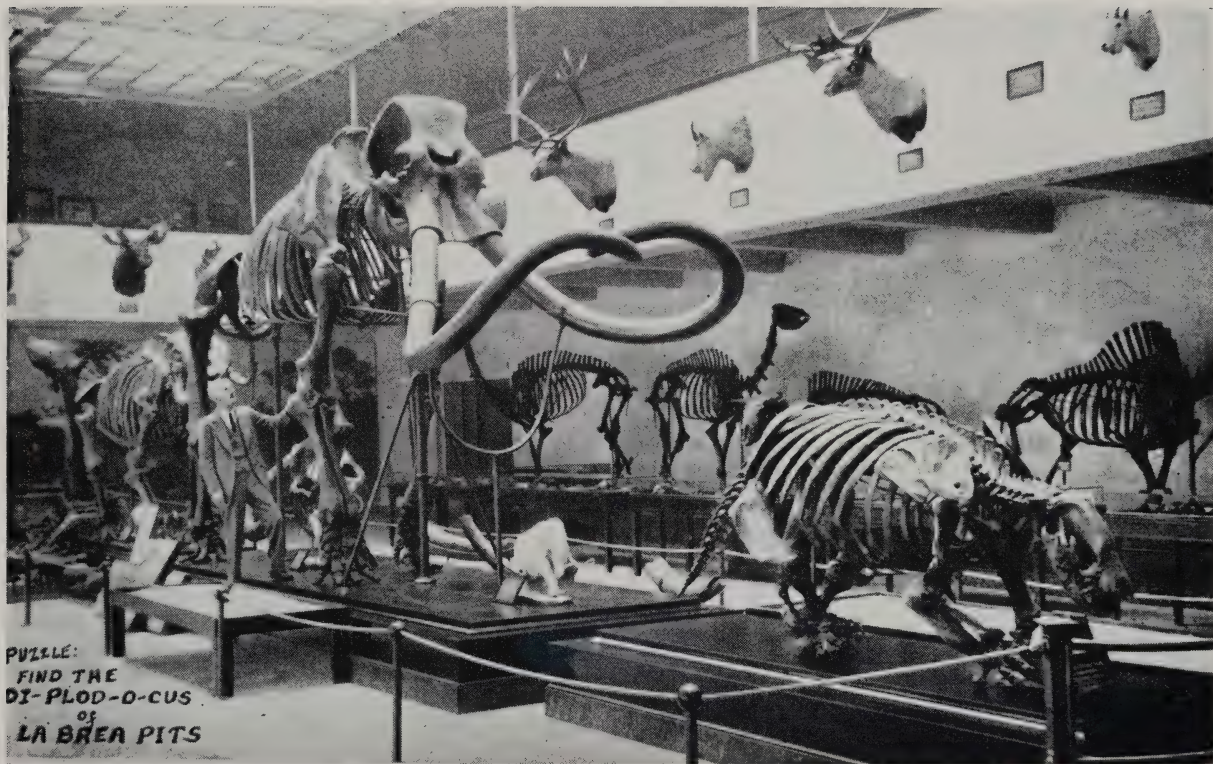
While La Brea has had a standing committee, consisting of George W. Burch, Jr. (P.M.), Chairman, Ed Meister (Charter Member), John W. Swank (P.M.), Ray S. Smith (P.M.), Russell Lee (P.M.) and Lloyd Fruehling (Secretary Emeritus and Charter Member), and to which has been assigned the task of assembling and writing the Lodge History, yet it was very soon ascertained that this could best be done by one person, and by consensus of the committee, this task fell to its Chairman, George W. Burch, Jr., who, however, is indebted not only to the Committee but to others, for their wise counsel and advice.

We trust that this history will bring back happy memories of pleasant Tuesday nights at "Old La Brea," and will, at the same time, re-kindle the "old spark" and desire to become a "regular" every Tuesday Night.

June 1, 1954.

Faternally yours,

George W. Burch, Jr.



PUZZLE:  
FIND THE  
DI-PLOD-D-CUS  
of  
LA BREA PITS

# Introduction

## RANCHO LA BREA

Rancho La Brea, celebrated for its tar pits, originally occupied forty-four hundred acres bounded south and west by Wilshire and San Vicente Boulevards, Los Angeles, a region of springs, gentle ravines and rich grasses.

Ever since Los Angeles was a small pueblo its citizens have been visiting La Brea. For three-quarters of a century they relied on the tar from these tar pits to keep rain out of their one-story adobes. Eight dusty miles lay between the pits and the plaza by way of El Camino Viejo.

For unnumbered thousands of years pools of tar, covered with thin layers of shining water, have been boiling and bubbling at La Brea. They were formed by oil seeping to the surface from ancient sea beds hundreds of feet below.

Here prehistoric animals were lured to their doom. Wading or plunging in to drink, they were caught in the tar as if in quicksand. Struggling to escape, they sank deeper. Other savage creatures rushed in to feast on the dying. The roars of floundering beasts filled the air where now is heard only the roar of traffic.

These pits were the graveyards of the Imperial Elephant, the Saber tooth Cat, the Giant Ground Sloth, the Mastodon, the Prehistoric Camel, the Short-faced Bear, the Dire Wolf, the Ancient Bison, the dreadful Teratornis, and other creatures of the Pleistocene period. Their bones today adorn the Los Angeles Museum.

Before the day of white men, brown-skinned Indians visited La Brea to get pitch for calking their canoes, for sealing their shell-made boxes and for fuel.

On August 3, 1769, white men first crossed Rancho La Brea. They were of the Portola party, whose diarist wrote:

"The explorers saw some large marshes of a certain substance like pitch; they were boiling and bubbling, and the pitch came out mixed with an abundance of water."

A year later a body of soldiers from San Diego, ordered to bring back a pack-load of pitch, fought a real battle with Indians at La Brea, bullets being exchanged for arrows.

Shortly after the founding of Los Angeles in 1781, when the first tule huts were being displaced by adobe, the citizens of the pueblo began visiting Rancho La Brea.

Six years after the Spanish regime in California gave way to the Mexican, Rancho La Brea was granted to Antonio Jose Rocha. That was in 1828. Rocha was a blacksmith and a substantial citizen. He had arrived in California from Portugal in 1815.

Rocha built a home, still standing, though remodeled, near the corner of Third and Fairfax. He built corrals. His cattle grazed over the land that is now all residence and business.

Since 1860 and almost to the present day the Rancho has been known as the "Hancock Ranch," after the family that bought La Brea from the heirs and successors of the first owner.



The names of Henry Hancock, early day lawyer and surveyor, and in later years, G. Allan Hancock, have been particularly linked with the famous ranch. Their ranch home, near Wilshire Boulevard, still stands, among the tar pits, to remind one of sheep and cattle-raising days and of the wholesale excavation and shipment of asphaltum.

Looking at them, one sees, in imagination, not only great, floundering beasts, but men from the pueblo filling ox-carts with tar for the roofs of one-story adobes.

## THE FOSSILS OF RANCHO LA BREA

So great was the desire to secure specimens from the La Brea Rancho of fossils of extinct fauna of the Pacific Coast, that the most noted scientific bodies in the land, from the Smithsonian Institute, through the long list down to the small college, applied for permission to excavate in this unique store of treasure.

When lumber was an impossible factor, the roofs of buildings hereabouts were covered with a natural waterproof material, called *Brea*, composed of the dried or hardened mixture of asphaltum and sand or gravel. Upon the Rancho of Major Hancock, but a few blocks from La Brea Lodge, were large deposits of this *Brea*, surrounding springs of water, side by side with the continual and bountiful flowing asphaltum. This site is now the property of the city and county of Los Angeles, comprising approximately thirty acres, which is now being improved for park purposes. This site was deeded to the city and county by the Hancock Estate, and thousands of dollars are being expended toward making it one of the show places of Southern California; and, eventually, will have a museum, containing the prehistoric animals discovered in 1901, and later periods of excavations.

Under the control of the Southern California Academy of Sciences, the great Historical Museum in Exposition Park now contains these invaluable fossils, a collection of over two thousand volumes, collections in Botany, Geology, Ichthyology, Conchology, Ethnology and Zoology, all of which have been freely placed before the public for examination and study.

The Pacific Coast, geologically speaking, is a comparatively young region, and presents for investigation rare deposits of fossil material. These range from the Miocene upward, and such large exposures occur on this slope of the continent that it has come to be regarded as a very rich field for the paleontologist. So thoroughly has the great region been studied and carefully searched that to find a deposit of such rare treasures as are entombed in the asphalt beds of Rancho La Brea, and this, too, within the limits of a great city, is truly a happy surprise. The more remarkable is it since the deposit area is beyond compare. The forms are unique, most thoroughly preserved, and readily accessible. . . . After the Civil War the development of the asphaltum deposits on the Rancho La Brea was begun. Major Hancock developed the use of the asphalt for sidewalks and paving purposes, and shipped considerable quantities to San Francisco by schooner. The asphalt was also much used for fuel by the early Los Angeles manufacturers. It was during this Hancock development, in addition to that previously made, that the artificial lake, "The Pit," was formed by removing large quantities of asphaltum.

With a more luxuriant vegetable growth, a more semi-tropic climate, a more abundant rainfall and perchance a slightly lower altitude, this place was the scene of those bygone days when animals, prodigies in size, vast in numbers, great in variety and remarkable in development, lost their lives and left

their bones to rest through past ages in the tarry springs. In 1875, Mr. Wm. Denton received from Major Hancock one of the very large sabers of the saber-tooth tiger. Thus the Major was doubtless the first one to observe the peculiarity of these bones, and recognize them as belonging to extinct forms.

... The deposit on Rancho La Brea has been variously styled La Brea Beds; The Death Trap; The Fossil Gardens; The Asphalt Beds; The Bone Field; The Pit; Rancho La Brea Beds; Rancho La Brea Formation; La Brea Pleistocene Beds, etc., intended to designate the deposit of bones in the tarry pits on the Hancock Ranch. All these designations, each suggesting an element which should be in the name, lack very essential particulars. A name should include reference to the greatest deposit of its kind, the location, and due credit given to any person directly concerned in its discovery. In view of these three essentials, and by consent of the owner of these deposits, I have used the name, The Hancock Brea Deposits.

The various changes in elevation of the Pacific Coast have produced changes in the conditions of erosion and deposition, resulting in an environment more or less favorable to the development of plant and animal life. Evidences are abundant to show that at one time in the history of the southwest this area was lower and more marshy; the climate was milder, the rainfall more abundant, vegetation more luxuriant, giving rise to a correspondingly highly developed fauna, and support to a greater variety of forms. This semi-tropical condition was succeeded by a rise of the land, the fall of temperature, and the "ice age" or glacial epoch was ushered in. The snow and ice extended far to the south, especially in the high altitudes, and gave the death chill to the life of the pre-glacial or Pleistocene time. It was at this time, about two hundred thousand years ago, that the plants and animals of Rancho La Brea perished and were buried. The subsequent sinking of the land resulting in the change of rainfall and temperature, brought about the melting of the ice, and introduced the present age. The slighter subsequent changes of level, both local and general, have caused many local disturbances, and it is suggested that the breaking and scattering of the bones in the Brea deposit have been due to such causes, but this is without evidence in beds themselves. In fact, the general mixing of animals and the scattering of their bones by carnivores, and the drifting by water, followed by the natural settling of the deposit in such accumulations, are quite sufficient to account for all changes noted.

The surface layers of varying thickness from the pure glistening tar to the hard asphalt pavement, are formed by the evaporation of the volatile ingredients. These, in connection with the dust and drifting sands carried by the winds, made a deceptive covering for the spring, causing it to appear firm and strong. The quantity of the water in the cavities, or the scanty "salt grass" which grew around these springs were quite tempting to a thirsty or starving animal. The bait was thus placed and the trap set. It is thus easy to see how an animal wandering in the twilight in search of food and drink would in the extremity of famine be driven to partake of the last lingering remnants of food. When once the feet began to sink into the sticky mass, while quenching the burning thirst or satisfying the gnawing hunger, they could not be withdrawn, and hence, while the animal would try to release one foot the other would be forced downward the farther. Deeper and deeper until limb and body, neck and head were completely submerged, or perchance in the struggle only the nostrils were closed with the tarry mass and death by

suffocation ensued, or it may have been from sheer exhaustion the animal yielded to the inevitable and groaning, sank to the ground limp and dying. The many gnawed bones suggest the great scarcity of food, while the interlocked jaws and broken teeth and scarred skulls tell more vividly of the frightful struggles which went on. The pools of tar when not strewn with debris or covered with dust and sand but fresh with the flow, appeared in the twilight or the shadow of night more remarkably like water and gave the same reflection from the mirror-like surface.

As the skeletons were deposited from year to year during the centuries, thousands doubtless wasted away and appear only as decayed animal matter, while others, thoroughly preserved by the tar, remain to the present almost as perfect as recent bones. These fossils are not petrifications as in most other cases elsewhere, but are the real bones, unchanged except in loss of animal matter and in their discoloration caused by the tar. This discoloring, however, adds to, rather than detracts from their beauty, for when polished they shine like the best of old bronze. These bones had been thrown together in such confusion as to render the removal of them very tedious and difficult. The bones were so mingled that two consecutive ones were rarely found together. Both sloth and tiger, mastodon and wolf, bird and beast, in fact some part of more than twenty animals were found in a few cubic feet of space. To remove these, required very little use of pick and shovel, but a great deal of painstaking labor with small tools, such as a garden trowel, flat file or a crooked wire. In this way often much less than a spoonful of the tarry matrix was removed at one time. Then too, while attempting to lift a certain desirable bone, a dozen others crossing it in one direction and another, was first most carefully taken away. This was very trying on one's patience, for it was not uncommon to begin in the morning on a certain bone and by night be, apparently farther away from it. On one occasion a member of the Board of Education came from the city to witness the digging, and decided to see a certain camel bone, plainly in sight, taken out. The digging for this bone began at 9:00 A.M. and it was exactly 2:30 P.M. when the coveted prize was placed in his hands. While it took so long to secure the release of this one bone, there was a bushel of others taken out, which were too good to throw away and in truth, probably as important as the one so eagerly sought.

If numbers found count for determining the dominant type, the golden eagle was by far most numerous, followed by the black vulture and turkey buzzard, alike plentiful, and the California condor making about ten per cent of the whole, while the largest bird of all, was rather rare, being about five per cent. Among the mammals represented in the beds, the carnivores greatly outnumbered all others. Judging from the individual skulls found, 75 per cent were carnivores of which 66 per cent were saber-tooth tigers, 20 per cent wolves, 5 per cent coyotes, 4 per cent lions, 2 per cent fox and the remainder other forms. Of the herbivores, 45 per cent were giant ground sloth, 20 the American ox, 12 the horse, 10 the mastodon, 5 the camel and the remainder, traces of elephant, etc.

The great American lion, *Felis atrox bebbi*, was one of the rarest finds of the whole deposit, and from the individuals found, the tigers outnumbered it ten to one. The scarcity of these animals is further evidenced by the fact that outside of these deposits only fragments of skeletons have been known. Of these fragments a large jaw found, in 1836, near Natchez, Mississippi, seems to be the best representative. The first skull discovered in October, 1908, was by Professor Gilbert. These skulls indicate the African type of



lion in their close resemblance to that animal, but are much larger than those of any other member of the whole cat family, either recent or fossil. The fossil fragments in the beds near Natchez and the rich find at Rancho La Brea, lead us to believe that this type of lion had a very wide geographical range in our country during the Pleistocene period.

Among the many species found, the ancient giant horse has contributed its share to the general subject of wonders. The specimens are fragments of horse both young and old, taken from the beds at a depth ranging from five to twenty feet. While the horses found in our beds were the single-toed ones, yet they are not to be considered in any way related to the living horses, or those found running wild over the plains of Texas and the pampas of South America. These were doubtless of Spanish introduction.

Among the large forms that attracted visitors at the Brea Beds was that of an immense ox, *Box antiqua*. The family to which this species belongs is the Bovidae characterized by hollow horns, hence what was found fossil were only the horn cores.

To find camel material in the diggings was a happy surprise. Other large animals had been represented in fair numbers and to add the ancient camel to the long list was a pleasure, indeed. Of the camel (*Camelidae*) family we have living representatives in the camels of Asia and Africa and the Vicunas guanacos and the llamas of South America. Fossil camels occur in the Pliocene of India and the Pleistocene of Algeria, while a host of extinct genera more or less closely allied to the living South America forms, occurs in the Tertiary deposits of the United States.

Among the curious animals found in the fossil gardens of Brea Rancho, none are more odd and at the same time more plentiful, than the giant ground sloth. This animal is now nowhere known and only very distant relatives are found in the tree sloths, ant-eaters and armadillos of South America. The number of individuals represented in the beds is quite great. The skulls and limb-bones were met with more often than those of any other large herbivorous animals. Sufficient have been found to build a complete skeleton. The only probably successful enemy of the giant sloth was doubtless the saber-tooth tiger, which would leap upon the back of this sluggish beast and with a stab and a rip backwards, would lay open the flesh and drink the copious flow of blood. Thus one by one, reduced by sudden death and longer starvation, the most peculiar of all our wanderers to the Brea Beds became extinct.

The mastodon is the largest fossil obtained on Rancho La Brea. It may be readily recognized by its cheek teeth, in which the crowns rise in three to five low, transverse ridges separated into more or less distinct tubercles, with the tips merely pointed or irregularly cupped.

From the foregoing it must be clear that, without exception, all the animals buried in the asphalt beds on Rancho La Brea were wanderers thither, some other parts of North America being their native home, while others had compassed the earth to arrive here. What a scattering of life in its instinct to roam. What an effort to persist in the progeneration of the races, and what a changed view of earth's fauna is presented in the survey of the hidden treasures of these tar beds. The light thus far shed is pleasing and intensely interesting, yet as the more intense the light, the deeper the darkness, so here the night of unsolved mysteries is only deepened. Whence, why and how these diverse forms, this enormous size, these varied degrees of activity, these original

types, how these peculiar instincts, this rise of intelligence, this differentiation, the nicety of adaptation, the dwarfing and decay. What movements of earth, what changes of environment, what great catastrophe or relentless hand has caused this apparent extinction so sudden and complete.

The student of geology sees in his mind a picture vastly different from the recent conditions and living fauna as he looks upon the strange forms of sloth, camel, ox, elephant, lion, tiger, etc. Nothing but a semi-tropical clime could have supported these gigantic animals, and their presence carries the mind across the water to Africa and India for duplicate life. Here the mastodon roamed from place to place, the American ox grazed on the plains, the giant sloth reached into the trees for the tender leaves and twigs, the stalking camels wended their way to the scanty watering places, the giant horse with its colt wandered peacefully among them. The hungry wolf, the giant tiger and the king of beasts, with their howl and snarl and roar made hideous the night, while the sailing condor, the soaring eagle and the swooping hawk and the birds of song made lively the air the livelong day. What happened to disturb this daily hum of animal life no tongue can tell, and only the vivid imagination of man can conjecture.

Included in the January, 1910 Bulletin of the Southern California Academy of Sciences are photographs of fossils found in the beds of Rancho La Brea; some are of skeletons completely mounted; the saber-tooth tiger; the mastodon of the Quaternary Age; fossil cypress; shanks of various extinct birds; skull and beak of California Teratornis and condor; American Giant Wolf, *Canis occidentalis*; teeth of llama, horse, giant wolf, camel, sloth, lion, saber and milk saber of saber-tooth tiger; exostosis of lion, saber-tooth tiger and giant wolf; skull of lion, the extinct coyote; splint bones of extinct giant horse, and many other illustrations interesting to all. The exhibit of these fossils can be viewed in the Museum at Exposition Park, and it is hoped you will avail yourselves of such an opportunity.

Maybe you can find the Di-plod-o-cus of La Brea Pits, Lloyd Fruehling says he can, but "me thinks" that the man has a vivid imagination if he can.

#### DIPLODOCUS (DI-PLOD-O-CUS)

We would indeed be amiss were we to pass over the origin of the "Diplodocus" (Di-plod-o-cus), the official publication of La Brea Lodge.

To me the history and development of the lodge bulletin is so fascinating that too much space cannot be devoted to its origin as well as its trials and tribulations. Somehow it thrived on adversity and its survival can best be credited to the pioneering spirit of the founders of our lodge and, in particular, to the inspiring leadership of Charles Benjamin Goodridge, more affectionately known as "C. B. Gee," its first editor and who guided its destinies for eight years. "C. B. Gee" was elected Master of La Brea Lodge for the Masonic year 1935. C. B. Gee's name will appear many times in this history, as his love and devotion to the Lodge, along with that of the charter members builded well for the future.

For many years the bulletins carried on page one the deeply significant

"La Brea's Bulletins

Are but rows of stepping stones

Laid for you, one by one

Toward the goal our thoughts create;

And ..... (the name of the month) is

One more stone."

Time may erase many things, but the recorded deeds and words of men are long remembered after their passing, and in writing this history, I found an article by "C. B." in the first bulletin which succinctly and concisely proclaimed the philosophy of La Brea Lodge and what it means to be a member of our lodge and I shall, accordingly, quote it verbatim:



### LA BREA'S "SQUARE AND COMPASS"

(With apologies to Bro. Edgar A. Guest)

"By La Brea's Square and Compass which you wear upon your coat  
You proclaim that you're a Mason. It's a sign for men to note;  
It's a symbol that your brothers have abiding faith in you;  
They believed that you were worthy and qualified to do  
All the necessary duties required of one who takes  
The first step of a Mason, and thereby obligates  
Himself to keep within his heart those sacred ties which bind  
One Brother to another; we considered you a find.

"Are you mindful of its meaning? Are you watchful of its fame?  
Are you careful as you travel not bring it into shame?  
You proclaim that you're a Mason, every passerby can see  
That you're pledged to do the right thing wheresoever you may be.  
"And before you were a Mason everything seemed dark,  
But now that you're our Brother you have kindled every spark  
Within our hearts; and Brother to everyone be fair  
And worthy of the Token which you wear.

"By La Brea's Square and Compass which so proudly you display  
You are bound to live and travel in a bigger, better way.  
You should dignify the emblem, for it has a guarantee  
That a gentleman of honor you are known and pledged to be.  
And when a visiting Brother comes within our confines here  
Make him feel at home among us, and greet him with a cheer.  
For La Brea's Square and Compass which you wear upon your coat  
Is the symbol of a friendly Lodge, a pledge to keep, we hope."

This might be more appropriately called La Brea's Creed, for over the years it has indeed been the mark by which La Brea Lodge has become known as a lodge of "friends" and the welcome mat has always been out for visiting Masons.

As we have previously noted, Wendell Harvey, Master in 1939, published one issue of the bulletin under the masthead of "The La Brea-Gram," but we hasten to add that he did so with the thought in mind of re-creating a renewed interest in the bulletin and the lodge, as the depression years bore heavily on the lodge and the members. In fact during his entire year the bulletin appeared in a mimeographed form, which he ran off by hand (how the Masters used to work).

It will probably come as a surprise to many, but certainly not to the charter members of the lodge to learn that our official bulletin first saw the light of day with the issue of May 1927, which incidentally was a folded



pamphlet, 3½ inches by 6½ inches, consisted of a total of 12 pages, carried as its official masthead "La Brea's Bulletin, La Brea Lodge U. D. (Editor's note: Under Dispensation) F. & A.M." and it was not until the issue of January 1928 that the name was changed to "The Diplodocus," and since by this time La Brea Lodge had received its Charter and was no longer under dispensation, the abbreviation "U. D." was dropped. In the issue of January 1940, the word "The" and which preceded the word "Diplodocus" was deleted and since then our official bulletin has been officially known as "Diplodocus (Di-plod-o-cus)" with the exception of the year 1939, when Wendell J. Harvey guided its destinies as its Worshipful Master, but it very nearly started a small riot by changing its name to "The La Brea—Gram," but this name change only lasted for one issue, and as we shall subsequently point out, this "super" soap salesman was only too glad to drop his "hot potato" and he willingly reverted back to the name "Diplodocus."

When the first and only issue of "The La Brea—Gram" appeared, those of you who were members of the lodge at the time will recall that many members who had not darkened "ole La Brea" for "many moons" let out a roar which reached as far as San Francisco and you would have thought that a beloved child, or even one's mother-in-law, had been executed at the guillotine. Our beloved "C. B. Gee" very nearly blew a "fuse" when he saw the issue of "The La Brea—Gram" and we prophesy that no future Masters will ever risk the wrath of the brethren by toying with the idea of changing the name of our bulletin.

"Ye old timers" will remember that from time to time various members suggested that in the interest of economy the *Diplodocus* be dispensed with, but any such suggestions only made the *Diplodocus* that much dearer and essential to the brethren. I remember that such a proposal was made in 1929, and on this occasion Wm. T. Wheeling, who at the time was associate editor, took up his pen and came forth with the following gems:

"Boys, I'm going to let you in on a deep dark secret. A remark has been passed around that we dispense with the Diplodocus. This remark has caused me to take my 'mighty' pen in hand with this loud outburst, for it has been so aptly said, 'the pen is mightier than the sword.' While I may dull my pen or break the point, I'm going to die with my boots on, or my pen in hand trying.

"Now I ask you, what would La Brea be without Diplodocus? Also I ask you, what would the Diplodocus be without C. B. Goodridge? And where would 'CB' be without Mrs. 'CB' to bring him coffee and doughnuts while he pecks away at his trusty typewriter getting the next issue of the *Diplodocus* ready for Joe Hurd to print. He wouldn't be the good editor he is and I want to say right here, 'CB' misses a lot of fun while he is busy working out something interesting to the membership. You who read do not realize the effort it takes."

Our good friend and member, Lloyd Fruehling, who, incidentally, was the first Secretary of the lodge and served continuously in this capacity until the close of the 1942 Masonic Year, in speaking of the correct pronunciation of the word "Diplodocus," in his inimical manner and with his customary firmness and certainty, states that since it was largely as a result of his research work in digging around the old fossils which were found in Rancho La Brea, better known as the La Brea pits, which, for those who are not natives of the city of Los Angeles, are located on the south side of Wilshire

Boulevard, between Fairfax and La Brea Avenue, Los Angeles, California, says it is "Di-plod-o-cus" (and not "Dip-lo-do-cus") with the accent on the second syllable. "Diplo" means—well, that's another story. "Diplodocus" is the name of a pre-historic animal found in the western portion of the United States. La Brea Lodge being in close proximity to the old pits of Rancho La Brea, where the discovery of fossils of extinct fauna attracted the attention of Zoologists throughout the extent of America and the world, and through the suggestions of Lloyd Fruehling, Secretary, and Wm. T. Wheeling, the first Master of La Brea Lodge, chose the above name as the official organ of La Brea Lodge and it instantly met with the universal approval of the Brethren.

While we consider La Brea to be a young lodge, yet it is interesting to note that La Brea Lodge was instituted only about nine years after the discovery of the pre-historic animals in the La Brea tar pits.

During the time that the brethren were struggling with the weighty matter of reaching a decision as to the name for the lodge bulletin, a cartoon was drawn depicting what the cartoonist believed was a fair representation of the trials and tribulations not only of primitive man but also of the Diplodocus.



### LIFE'S ACACIA

Some remember words and some recall the signs  
When going back to the days they memorized those lines.  
But in my heart, an acacia, like the breath of Spring,  
Blots out all words and signs, with me remembering.

How the sun shone brightly through life's trees  
Below where I was kneeling, like sails before a breeze!  
Each Tuesday night I witness the degrees as before,  
With memory taking up my thots of Masonry's inner door.

Ah, never signs or pass words can equal this one thing,  
The symbolical acacia, ever fresh as any spring.  
Each day my thoughts take me back to "adjacent rocks,"  
Whereon I heard voices, myself within a box.

I like to dream of brotherhood, man's life unfurled,  
With all the happy moments of Masonry's better world;  
Beckoning unto me the greatness of good in man,  
When his handclasp just tells me he's one Mason's clan.

Ever the rituals changeless—principles, too, the same.  
Only individuals differ, like any magic game.  
And so I seek acacias for life's long trip,  
To bring to me a lesson while on my own dream-ship!

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# A History of La Brea Lodge

## FIRST PRELIMINARY MEETING

A group of twenty Master Masons, only five of whom were California Masons, the balance being from other Masonic jurisdictions assembled on the evening of May 11, 1926, in the Wilshire-La Brea Building for the purpose of taking the necessary measures for the establishing of a Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons.

As none of the men had sat in lodge together, they recognized each other as Master Masons in good standing by the presentation of their respective lodge receipts.

This group of pioneer Masons met in a cold, bare room at the end of a long flight of stairs, in true pioneer style,—if you must know, there were no tables or chairs. Their furniture consisted of cracker boxes which they borrowed from the grocery store on the ground floor of the building.

The Wilshire-La Brea Building as it was then known, is now better known as the La Brea Masonic Building. The building in its inception had a bank and grocery store on the ground floor, the upper floor being in the nature of a loft.

Being members of the craft, they recognized the necessity of having a chairman and secretary. On motion of Philip Kallech, Wm. T. Wheeling was elected chairman and on motion of Clyde C. Caillet, Verl E. Blair was named as secretary.

The first order of business was the adoption of a name for the proposed new lodge and we find that after some discussion they agreed on the name, "La Brea Lodge."

The chairman being a master of parliamentary law, and incidentally, Junior Past Master of Mispah Lodge No. 378 F. & A. M. of the State of California, then proposed as the next requisite measure, a selection of Master and Wardens to be named in the petition for a dispensation. The meeting then proceeded, by ballot, to nominate the three senior officers for recommendation to the Grand Master. Wm. W. Wedding and Russell L. Ray, as tellers, did an excellent job in canvassing the vote of those present, and they announced that the following named Brethren had been chosen for such nomination, viz.:

Brother Wm. T. Wheeling, for Master

Brother Wm. H. Parcels, for Senior Warden

Brother J. O. Burnett, for Junior Warden

Thus, having chosen a name for the proposed new lodge, together with the naming of the three senior officers, a committee of three, consisting of Philip Kalech, Roy L. Haslett and Wm. H. Parcels, was appointed to prepare a Petition for Dispensation, in accordance with the form prescribed by the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of the Jurisdiction of California, to be presented to the Grand Master therein, praying him to grant a dispensation to form an open Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons in the Wilshire-La Brea Building, to be called La Brea Lodge.

These pioneers were so anxious for action, that during the period of a brief recess called by the chairman, the Petition for a Dispensation was prepared, and when the meeting was called to order, the petition, of which the following is a copy, having been presented by the committee and approved, was signed by all those present, as hereinafter set forth:

#### "PETITION FOR DISPENSATION

"To form and open La Brea Lodge, F. & A. M.

"To the Most Worshipful Albert Eugene Boynton,

"Grand Master of Masons in California:

"The Petition of the undersigned respectfully represents that they are Master Masons in good standing; that they were last members of the respective lodges named opposite their several signatures hereunto as it will appear from the demit or certificate of each of the petitioners, herewith transmitted; that they reside in or near the City of Los Angeles, in the County of Los Angeles, State of California; that among them are sufficient number of brethren well qualified to open and hold a Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons, and to discharge all its various duties in the three degrees of Ancient Masonry, in accordance with established usage; and that, having the prosperity of the Craft at heart, and being desirous to use their best endeavors for the diffusion of its beneficent principles, they pray for a Dispensation empowering them to form, open, and hold a regular lodge at the City of Los Angeles, aforesaid, to be called La Brea Lodge.

"They have nominated and respectfully recommended Brother William Thomas Wheeling as the first Master, Brother William Horatio Parcels, as the first Senior Warden, Brother Jay Otis Burnett as the first Junior Warden of said lodge, they being each, in all respects, competent to perform all the duties of either of the stations for which they are severally proposed; and, if the prayer of the petitioners be granted, they promise in all things strict obedience to the commands of the Grand Master, and undeviating conformity to the Constitution and Regulations of the Grand Lodge.

"Dated at Los Angeles, on the eleventh day of May, A. L. 5926.

"John Samuel Holmes, Edgewater No. 901, Illinois;

"William Wallace Wedding, Julian Field No. 908, Texas;

"Roy Cassell Burton, Meridian No. 280, Iowa;

"Ben Arthur Burton, Meridian No. 280, Iowa;

"Abraham Solomon Allen, Excelsior No. 259, Iowa;

"Harold Caywood Hall, Ark No. 176, Minnesota;

"Edward Jackson Meister, Ben Franklin No. 962, Illinois;

"Kenneth Metcalf, Mystic Star No. 758, Illinois;

"Philip Kalech, Fulton No. 216, Georgia;

"Verl E. Blair, Louisville No. 196, Illinois;

"Fred Perry Lowe, Northeast No. 643, Missouri;

"Frank Edmund Horne, Copestone No. 641, New York;

"Clyde Curtius Caillet, South Pasadena No. 367, California;

"Russell Lawrence Ray, Ivanhoe No. 446, Missouri;

"William Thomas Wheeling, Mispah No. 378, California;

"Roy Lyon Haslett, Mispah No. 378, California;

"Ross Henry Quinby, Prudence No. 205, Iowa;

"Lloyd Herbert Fruehling, Argenta No. 3, Utah;

"William Horatio Parcels, Calexico No. 412, California."

Thus we find that a collection of California, Illinois, and Iowa Masons with a sprinkling from Texas, Minnesota, Georgia, New York, Utah and Missouri were the founders of La Brea Lodge.

Attached to the Petition for Dispensation were the demit or certificate of each of the petitioners.

The Brethren realizing that they would have to obtain the recommendation of an Inspector, to be transmitted to the Grand Master with the Petition, laid their plans well, for they well knew that none other than Most Worshipful Lee T. Mullen, Inspector of the district in which the proposed lodge was to be located would have to approve the application not only as to form but also as to whether the same could be filed. It was determined that the proposed lodge quarters, even though they were more suitable for a barn than lodge quarters, were a "safe and suitable lodge room." The fact that the rental was to be the sum of eighty dollars per month did not phase the "Hardy Pioneers," for they immediately agreed to pay this rental.

Even pioneers must have money to operate a lodge room and we find that they assessed each petitioner the sum of twenty-five dollars, to pay the fee for a dispensation, to procure the requisite books, the jewels, clothing, furniture, etc., for the lodge, and to defray any other necessary expenses, said sum to be paid within a period of ninety days. According to the lodge records, all of the petitioners paid their assessment.

Masonic Law required that copies of a Petition for Dispensation should be sent to the various lodges in the jurisdiction to be affected by the proposed new lodge at least forty-five days before the presentation of the Petition to the Grand Master. It was accordingly agreed that the necessary certificate of Qualification and Recommendation be obtained, and that the chairman and secretary, at the end of the forty-five day period transmit the Petition, demits, recommendations, and certificates to the Grand Secretary, with the necessary fee for dispensation, with the request that he lay said papers before the Grand Master for his consideration.

This group of Masons with their zeal for Masonry, and not knowing whether or not their application for dispensation would be granted by the Grand Master, nevertheless determined that they would have a lodge in all events, and accordingly, a committee consisting of Roy L. Haslett and Philip Kalech were appointed to procure the proper books and blanks for the lodge, as prescribed by the Constitution of the Grand Lodge and jewels, working-tools, clothing, furniture, etc., required by the usages of the Craft.

## SECOND PRELIMINARY MEETING

Under date of Tuesday, October 5, 1926, the second preliminary meeting was held at the hall in the Wilshire-La Brea Building.

Due to the enforced absence of Verl E. Blair, who was the then acting Secretary, and the probability of the absence being permanent, on motion of Wm. H. Parcels, none other than Lloyd H. Fruehling was named as Secretary.

By this time the membership committee had put in some yeoman work, for we find that the following brethren had evidenced a desire to become charter members, and being so recognized as brother Masons, were allowed to sign the Petition for a Dispensation wherein they agreed to that which was stated thereon:



William Henry Barker, Hollywood No. 355, California,  
Frank Hanson Schepler, Tyrian No. 500, Michigan,  
Albert Lee Wilson, Reno No. 140, Kansas,  
Zellner Oakes Hart, Elysian No. 418, California,  
Anthony Conrad Paquet Zeuner, San Diego No. 35, California,  
William Mellenthin, Sojuorer No. 507, California.

Included in the charter members were the following Past Masters by affiliation:

Wm. T. Wheeling, Albert L. Wilson, Roy C. Burton and Benjamin A. Burton.

Jay Otis Burnett, for sufficient reasons, withdrew as the elected Junior Warden and by unanimous vote, Roy Lyon Haslett was elected to fill the position as first Junior Warden, and the necessary change was made on the Petition.

The chairman announced that he had caused a corrected copy of the Petition to be given to each lodge whose jurisdiction is to be affected by the new lodge, setting forth the names of the petitioners in full with their present or former Masonic affiliations, the name of the proposed Master and Wardens, and the name of the proposed lodge room or hall.

Some fine Masonic politics apparently were indulged in, for we find that this group of Masons after bearding Lee T. Mullen, Inspector of the 72nd Masonic District, not once but several times, broke down his resistance and to such an extent that Lee, with his usual enthusiasm, went to bat with the eleven other Inspectors of this Jurisdiction, and with the result that Lee, after due examination of the proposed Master and Wardens, issued a Certificate of Qualification, under date of October 2, 1926, of which the following is a copy:

#### CERTIFICATE OF QUALIFICATION

"To the Most Worshipful Albert Eugene Boynton,

"Grand Master of Masons in California:

"The Petitions of twenty-five brethren, residing at the City of Los Angeles, in the County of Los Angeles, praying the Grand Master for a Dispensation to open and hold a new lodge at said city, to be called La Brea Lodge, having been presented to me, and Bros. William T. Wheeling, William H. Parcels and Roy L. Haslett being recommended therein for nomination, respectfully, as Master, Senior Warden, and Junior Warden, of said proposed new lodge. Now, I, Inspector of the 72nd Masonic District, do hereby certify that, to my positive knowledge, each of said brethren is fully competent properly to confer the three degrees of Masonry, to deliver entire the several lectures thereunto appertaining, and is thoroughly proficient in those portions of the Constitution and General Regulations of the Grand Lodge which relate to the government of a lodge,

"Given at Los Angeles, in the County of Los Angeles, this  
2nd day of October, A. L. 5926,

"Lee T. Mullen, Inspector 72nd District."

The chairman further reported that Lee T. Mullen, Inspector of the 72nd District, had issued a certificate recommending to the Grand Master that a dispensation be granted. Following is a copy of the Recommendation:

## RECOMMENDATION

"To the Most Worshipful Albert Eugene Boynton,

"Grand Master of Masons in California:

"We hereby certify that a petition for the issue of a dispensation to form and open a new lodge at Los Angeles, in the County of Los Angeles, to be known as La Brea Lodge, has been presented to us; we further certify that it is known to us that the signers to said Petition, twenty-five in number, are all Master Masons in good standing, that the establishment of the new lodge is a manifest propriety and will conduce to the good of Masonry and that a safe and suitable lodge room has been provided therefor.

"We further certify that written notice of forty-five days of their intention to apply for a dispensation has been given by the petitioners to each lodge whose jurisdiction is to be affected by the new lodge, setting forth the names of the petitioners in full, with their present or former Masonic affiliations, the names of the proposed Master and Wardens, and the name of the proposed lodge and the location of its lodge room or hall.

"We therefore recommend that the dispensation prayed for in said petition be granted.

"Given at Los Angeles, in the County of Los Angeles, this 2nd day of October A. L. 5926,

"Frank G. Falloon, Inspector 70th District;

"Martin L. Griffith, Inspector 71st District;

"Lee T. Mullen, Inspector 72nd District;

"Frederick E. Warner, Inspector 73rd District;

"Rollie W. Miller, Inspector 76th District;

"William H. Schreider, Inspector 78th District;

"James G. Scarborough, Inspector 79th District;

"Dwight W. Stevenson, Inspector 80th District;

"Frank M. Wise, Inspector 81st District;

"Clarence M. Good, Inspector 82nd District;

"Carl B. Barkla, Inspector 83rd District."

The chairman reported that certain expenditures had been made, consisting of \$75.00 as the Grand Lodge fee for the dispensation and \$17.00 for the caps for the middle chamber columns.

On the shoulders of Wm. H. Parcels, Roy L. Haslett and Philip Kalech fell a great deal of the organization work for the embryo lodge, and too great credit cannot be given them, or the others who have played a part in the birth and growth of the La Brea Lodge.

## FIRST MEETING UNDER DISPENSATION

On November 16, 1926, the first step in the life of La Brea Lodge was made with our beloved Samuel E. Burke, Past Grand Master, at the helm as installing officer. Many steps have since been taken, each one toward that ever important principle which Masonry is constantly keeping before us.

This will be a long remembered meeting, for it represented the successful culmination of the efforts of the charter members to establish a new lodge in the western portion of Los Angeles, which was then just coming into its own, and as subsequent events showed the name and location of the proposed new lodge was synonymous with the growth of the "Wilshire Miracle Mile."

The Grand Master in the exercise of his prerogatives having granted the petition of the charter members for a new lodge to be known as "La Brea Lodge No. 650," the chairman duly called the brethren together for the purpose of opening the new lodge.

Brother Samuel E. Burke assumed the East and instituted the lodge in conformity with the rites of Masonry and the charges of our ancient and honorable fraternity. By his direction, Lee T. Mullen, Inspector of the 72nd Masonic District, read the following:

#### DISPENSATION

"The Grand Lodge of California,

"To all whom it may concern, greeting:

"Whereas, a petition has been presented to me by sundry brethren, to wit: Brothers William Thomas Wheeling, William Horatio Parcels, Roy Lyon Haslett, Clyde Curtius Caillet, Anthony Conrad Paquet Zeuner, William Henry Barker, Philip Kalech, Edwin Jackson Meister, William Wallace Wedding, Russell Lawrence Ray, Harold Caywood Hall, Fred Perry Lowe, Lloyd Herbert Fruehling, Frank Hanson Schepler, Albert Lee Wilson, John Samuel Holmes, Ben Arthur Burton, Zellner Oakes Hart, William Mellenthin, Ross Henry Quinby, Roy Cassell Burton, Abraham Soloman Allen, Horace Jarvis Barton, Franklin Edmund Horne, and Jay Otis Burnett, all residing in or near the City of Los Angeles, in the County of Los Angeles, in the State of California, praying to be congregated into a regular lodge; to be known and designated as La Brea Lodge, and promising to render obedience to the ancient usages and landmarks of the fraternity, and the Constitution and Regulations of Grand Lodge; and whereas, the said petitioners have been duly recommended to me as Master Masons in good standing, in the manner prescribed by the regulations of the Grand Lodge;

"Now Know Ye, that I, Albert Eugene Boynton, Grand Master of Masons in the State of California, reposing full confidence in the recommendations aforesaid, and in the Masonic integrity and ability of the petitioners, do, by virtue of the power in me vested, hereby grant this dispensation, empowering and authorizing our trusty and well beloved brethren aforesaid, to form and open a lodge, after the manner of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons, and therein to admit to membership and make Free Masons, according to the ancient custom, and not otherwise.

"This dispensation is to continue in full force until the first day of the month in which the next Annual Communication of our Grand Lodge shall be holden, unless sooner revoked by me; and I do hereby appoint Brother William Thomas Wheeling to be the first Master, Brother William Horatio Parcels to be the first Senior Warden, and Brother Roy Lyon Haslett to be the first Junior Warden of the said new lodge; requiring them to return this dispensation, with the Book of Record, an attested copy of the By-Laws, and a full report of the doings of their said lodge, to our Grand Lodge aforesaid, at the expiration of the time herein specified, for examination, and for such further action in the premises as shall then be deemed wise and proper.

"Given under my hand and the Seal of our Grand Lodge, aforesaid, at San Francisco, this fifth day of October, A. L. 5926, A. D. 1926.

Albert Eugene Boynton,  
Grand Master."

"Attest: John Whicher,  
Grand Secretary."



With the reading of the "Dispensation," Samuel E. Burke invested the following brethren with the jewels of their offices, and they took their respective stations in the lodge, viz:

Bro. William Thomas Wheeling, as . . . . .	Master
Bro. William Horatio Parcels, as . . . . .	Senior Warden
Bro. Roy Lyon Haslett, as . . . . .	Junior Warden
Bro. Clyde Curtius Caillet, as . . . . .	Treasurer
Bro. Lloyd Herbert Fruehling, as . . . . .	Secretary
Bro. Edwin Jackson Meister, as . . . . .	Chaplain
Bro. William Henry Barker, as . . . . .	Senior Deacon
Bro. Philip Kalech, as . . . . .	Junior Deacon
Bro. Harold Caywood Hall, as . . . . .	Marshal
Bro. William Wallace Wedding, as . . . . .	Senior Steward
Bro. Russell Lawrence Ray, as . . . . .	Junior Steward
Bro. Fred Perry Lowe, as . . . . .	Tiler

and La Brea Lodge was opened in due and ancient form in the third degree of Masonry.

After the formalities of installation were concluded, Brother Samuel E. Burke resigned the chair, and the Master instructed the Secretary to enter first upon his record book the minutes of the proceedings at the several preliminary meetings held for the purpose of making arrangements for the establishment of La Brea Lodge, with the various official documents therewith connected. Thus the record heretofore reported in this history became official records of La Brea Lodge.

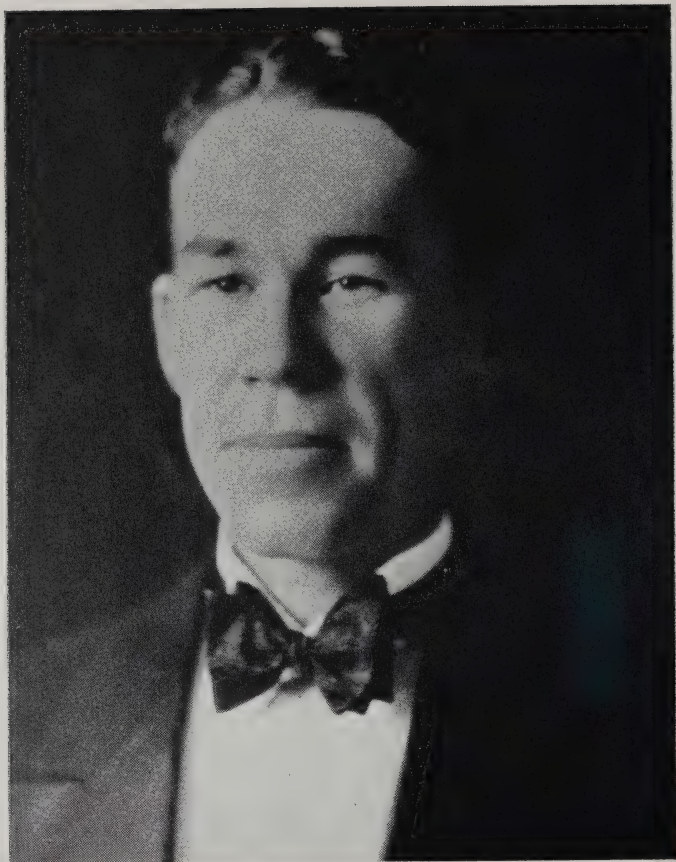
William H. Parcels, Senior Warden, approached the East and presented William T. Wheeling, Master, with an engraved gavel, which was a gift from the officers of La Brea Lodge in token of their esteem for him.

For those of you who have wondered when and where the silk hat, size 7½, which is still used by the current Master of the lodge, first became the property of the lodge, we beg to inform you that Brother J. Gilman Bean, a visiting brother, presented William T. Wheeling, Master, with the foregoing hat; incidentally, "Bill Wheeling's" name is still inscribed on the inside of the hat.

The Master then stated that the next requisite measure would be the adoption of the By-Laws for the Lodge, and that, as the Grand Lodge had prescribed a uniform code for the jurisdiction, it was only necessary to fill in the blanks in the printed form, designating the name of the lodge, the time of the stated meetings, the amounts of its fees and dues, and the sum authorized to be drawn by the Charity Committee, all of which had been done and reported for adoption by the following committee appointed for that purpose: Brothers William H. Parcels, Roy L. Haslett and William Henry Barker composed that committee.

Inspector Lee T. Mullen delivered his first address to the baby lodge of the district, and as subsequent years demonstrate, both the advice of Brother Burke and Brother Lee were carefully adhered to.

The custom originated with the first year of the lodge of presenting an engraved gavel, a gift from the officers, to the newly installed Master. As no organization is complete without a set of By-Laws, following the installation ceremonies, the By-Laws, as prescribed by the Grand Lodge, were duly adopted and through the succeeding years have met the test of time.



WILLIAM THOMAS WHEELING  
Worshipful Master  
1926-1927

# Chapter I

As first Worshipful Master of La Brea Lodge, William T. Wheeling, more affectionately known as "Brother Bill" or "Bill the First" (for he was immediately followed in the oriental chair in the East by William Horatio Parcels, who became known as "Bill the Second"), served us well.

In our humble way we will attempt to give you a biography of our beloved "Bill" Wheeling, a brother who has been honored by having had the privilege of occupying the oriental chair in the East during the years 1926-27.

"Bill" is modest concerning affairs affecting himself, but ever ready and willing to promote and extole the good he discovers in his fellow man.

As "Bill" says: "To write a biography of one, he must first be born." Therefore, without anyone consulting him on the matter, he came into this life on the 9th day of July, 1891, a baby boy, strong of lung power and vigorous; always anxious to inform those around him it was dinner time for "Bill."

Milk was his fare, for he tells us it was at the milk station at Pevely, Missouri, he was born; a place that was proud of a male crane—no wonder he was born a boy baby.

Pevely, a station on the St. Louis, Iron Mountain and Southern Railway, now known as the Missouri Pacific, must have been justly proud of the Wheeling family, for there were eleven children to grace their home.

From Pevely, the Wheeling family moved to Irondale, Missouri, and after a short sojourn there, moved to Bonne Terre, Missouri, the richest lead mining district of the United States.

Graduating from the Bonne Terre High School in 1910, "Bill" completed a business course in college; starting out to conquer the world, as he says. He remained in Bonne Terre until 1913, at which time, he followed Horace Greely's advice and came west to the glorious sunshine ("smog" was not then known). Here he has resided since 1913, familiar with the various activities of a growing city.

"Bill" took unto himself a wife, entering into wedlock with Vesta Shaner, June 24, 1914, and of this union two children were born, William Keith and Patricia Jane.

In 1918, "Bill" enrolled in the Commerce and Finance class at Southwestern University, Los Angeles, but due to circumstances beyond his control, was unable to complete his studies. His family, as always, came first.

"Bill" held responsible positions with the Pacific Electric Railway and General Petroleum Corporation for periods of time; in 1924, he accepted a position with the Linde Air Products Corporation, a subsidiary of the Union Carbide and Carbon Corporation, as sales representative.

Having mentioned the first and second of three most important episodes in his life—those of his birth and marriage, we come to the period of his Masonic career. He was raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason on the 22nd day of February, 1919, in Mizpah Lodge No. 278, F. & A. M.,



Los Angeles, California. That was the third most important incident in his life; it was also the anniversary of George Washington's birth. (Brother George Washington was elected Master of Alexandria Lodge during his first term as President of the United States, and served with honor and distinction not only to himself but to his lodge.) In 1919, "Bill" was appointed as Senior Steward of Mizpah Lodge. Step by step he advanced through the chairs of Mizpah Lodge, until he received the highest award within the power that any individual lodge could confer: occupying the oriental chair in the East, as Worshipful Master, during the year 1925.

During the latter part of 1925, while the organization of La Brea Lodge was in process of formation, a man having the ideals of Masonry at heart; capable of carrying to a satisfactory conclusion plans of forming a lodge; selecting men suitable for its charter members; the personnel of its officers and the proper administration of its affairs necessary to obtain a Charter from the California Grand Lodge, the selection of William Thomas Wheeling for this important office was made. As soon as his term as Worshipful Master of Mizpah Lodge had terminated, he demitted to La Brea; and during the years 1926-27, successfully accomplished what very few men are able to do, and today we have one of the most successful lodges in California.

Bill Wheeling belonged to the Masters and Wardens Association, which although no longer active, played an important part for many years in furthering the good of the Masonic Order, and the Masonic Club of Los Angeles, which at one time had its own club house on South Hope Street, but unfortunately fell prey to adversities, principally economic, and no longer exists; he is a Scottish Rite Mason.

"Bill", serving his stewardship as Master of La Brea Lodge, was Grand Lodge Inspector for ten years, following which he served on the Grand Lodge Board of Control for four years.

His good wife, following a long illness, passed away in 1936. Bill, in the meantime, applied himself to the accounting profession. In 1939, he married Antonette Decker, who likewise is an accountant, and with her support, "Bill" successfully passed the California examinations for Certified Public Accountants in 1946, and he has served the business men and women with distinction in this, his chosen field, ever since.

In 1945, Brother "Bill", at the request of George Burch, Master, served La Brea Lodge as its Treasurer.

"Bill" is never too busy to this very day to lend a helping hand to a brother and his lodge. He has for many years made the annual audit of the Secretary's and Treasurer's records, and without compensation. He, likewise, for many years audited the records of the Los Angeles Board of Relief.

Thus we endeth our story of Brother "Bill."

During "Bill's" tenure, a lodge picture album was opened and for many years the record was kept up to date, but finally it fell into disuse and the practice has not been resumed.

La Brea Lodge, during Bill's year and for many succeeding years, became well and favorably known throughout the Masonic lodges of the city of Los Angeles, due to their practice of frequently visiting other lodges and the proficiency of their degree work. Whenever possible, this is an excellent practice to follow and we commend it to all succeeding Masters.

The founders and charter members of La Brea Lodge little knew that the outstanding success which attended their efforts during the Masonic

year of 1927, augured well for succeeding years and set a standard which Masters in succeeding years have endeavored to equal but in most cases has been beyond reach.

We find that during the first year of La Brea there were not sufficient nights or days in which to confer degrees upon would-be Masons and members of La Brea Lodge, but nevertheless, we find that the following brethren were elected, and those with an asterisk in front of their names were raised to the sublime degree of Master Masons during the year:

- \*Rachal Hawthorne Lewis
- \*Heber John Bishop
- \*Bernard Marshall Hill
- \*Ben Walsh Sherwood
- \*Wendell Jennings Harvey ("Harv," Master in 1939)
- \*Morris Monson Gutherie ("Morry")
- \*William Raleigh Neilson (Raleigh)
- \*Virgil Kenneth Shimer ("Shimmy")
- \*Arthur Brunton Leonard ("Bru")
- \*Joseph Shipley Brown
- \*Isadore Richard Allen ("Abe")
- \*Elmer B. Sullivan ("Sully")
- \*James McLeod Johnson
- \*Arthur Edwin Bowman ("Art")
- \*Anton Gottfred Hookanson ("Tony," Master in 1948)
- \*Albert Milner Phelan ("Al")  
Alvah Warren Ross (the Daddy of the Wilshire "Miracle Mile")
- \*Allison Albert Heintzelman ("Heiny")
- \*William James Mann ("Jimmie," Master in 1949)
- \*Walter Thomas Plummer
- \*Lester Blankfield
- \*Bernard Barton
- \*Leo Burgess Pfeiffer  
Frank Leslie Ring (associated with his brother in the oil business)
- \*Elwin Walter Forrow
- \*Herman Blair Graves
- \*Harry Albert Lannell
- \*Charles Clyde Wedding
- \*Charles Prentice Hewitt (Prentice)
- \*Albert Alexandria Boswell
- \*James Annon Sine ("Jimmie")
- \*Charles Campbell Boswell
- \*Arnold Vernon Smith
- \*Ernest Walter Earl
- \*Ralph Bandini (a descendent of a prominent Spanish family)  
James King Butler  
Martin Luther Thomas (An ordained minister in the Presbyterian Church; Major in the Army Chaplain Corps in World War II)
- \*William Raymond Chubbic ("Bill")
- \*Leon Kenneth Strong  
Reginald Elinor Govoneur Stevens ("Reg")  
Archa Evan Hoffman

Edwin Pascal Whitney ("Ed")  
John Marion Kendall  
Lee Henry Sterling

This great array of talent has only been equaled during the year of 1945, when George Woodward Burch, Jr. served the lodge as Worshipful Master.

As evidence of the efficient work, or shall we say, the individual efforts of the members, the following brothers, by affiliation, were duly elected:

Charles Benjamin Goodridge ("C.B.," Master in 1935)  
Warrent Talmadge Bleecker  
Charles William Lockmes  
Irving Paoli Leigh  
Frank Hannon Henderson  
Jo D'Hart Hurd ("Jo," Master in 1937)  
Franklin Borgan ("Frank," Master in 1951)  
Walter Washington Knoth (Walter and Clarence were the first two brothers who became members of La Brea Lodge)  
Milton Robert Edmonds  
Clarence Valentine Knoth  
Walter Lloyd Laumann (Lloyd, Master in 1936)  
Carl Alfred Stone (owner of a radio and television store)  
Theodore Alwin Heinold ("Ted," Master in 1934)  
Frank Leslie Ring  
Edward Samuel Lodge  
Robert William Pray  
Lloyd Walter Robinson, Jr.  
Cecil Mason Hall  
Roger Alton Jones  
David Ewing Godfrey

During the greater portion of 1927, the lodge acted under the dispensation therefor, granted on the 5th day of October, 1926, which by its terms expired October 1, 1927.

We must bear in mind that not only were the foregoing petitions received and acted upon during the year, but that substantial lodge equipment was acquired, a considerable portion of which is still put to good use.

The first Master Mason raised in La Brea Lodge was Joseph Shipley Brown, and a subsequent chapter discloses he left an important mark on the lodge.

One of the most noteworthy efforts undertaken by the young lodge was the issuance and publication of the lodge bulletin, concerning which considerable space will be devoted in subsequent chapters of this history. In lieu of a better name, it was determined to call the new publication, "La Brea's Bulletin." A total of nine issues were published under the able supervision of C. B. Goodridge, more affectionately known as "CB Gee."

The first issue of the new bulletin contains one of the famous sonnets or poems for which "CB Gee" became well known not only in the lodge but in other lodges of the Jurisdiction. We feel that the first poem or sonnet, with its deep and significant meaning, aptly expresses what it means to wear the square and compass, and it is with this thought in mind that the same is recorded; CB entitled his poem, "La Brea's Square and Compass."



## LA BREA'S SQUARE AND COMPASS

"By La Brea's Square and Compass which you wear upon your coat  
You proclaim that you're a Mason. It's a sign for men to note;  
It's a symbol that your brothers have abiding faith in you;  
They believed that you were worthy and qualified to do  
All the necessary duties required of one who takes  
Himself to keep within his heart those sacred ties that bind  
One Brother to another; we consider you a 'find.'

"Are you mindful of its meaning? Are you watchful of its fame?  
Are you careful as you travel not to bring it into shame?  
You proclaim that you're a Mason, every passerby can see  
That you're pledged to do the right thing wheresoever you may be.  
And before you were a Mason every thing seemed very dark,  
But now that you're our Brother you have kindled every spark  
Within our hearts; and Brother, to everyone be fair  
And worthy of the token which you wear.

"By La Brea's Square and Compass which so proudly you display  
You are bound to live and travel in a bigger, better way.  
You should dignify the emblem, for it has a guarantee,  
That a gentleman of honor you are known and pledged to be  
And when a visiting Brother comes within our confines here  
Make him feel at home among us, and greet him with a cheer.  
For La Brea's Square and Compass which you wear upon your coat  
Is the symbol of a friendly lodge, a pledge to keep, we hope."

We only wish that time and space permitted the assembling and publication of the subsequent poems which "CB" Goodridge dedicated and devoted to La Brea and its members.

Among the various contributions to the La Brea bulletin during this first year we seem to recall that a poem was dedicated to the "Bills" of La Brea Lodge, part of which was as follows:

"He was raised a Mason at twenty odd years,  
A motherless son in his own home town,  
When he chose for himself a roving career;  
His restless spirit he ne'er could down.  
He wandered 'way out and gazed around  
Like a soldier of fortune, this man, in a dream,  
Never found fault, whimpered or frowned.  
Smiling Bill of the Lodge Marine.

"Known from Capetown to Yukon to foreign lands  
As "Smilin' Bill," the happiest cuss,  
Who had a big heart, used his head and hands;  
With always a smile for the best of us  
And would you believe it. He's here on the coast;  
To La Brea he demitted and found the right way  
Of living and loving. And now its his boast—  
He's "Smilin' Bill" of the Lodge La Brea."

Vesta Wheeling, wife of William the First, not to be outdone by "CB" penned the following lament:

### THE LODGE WIDOW'S LAMENT

"Needles and pins, needles and pins,  
When a man joins La Brea  
His wife's trouble begins.

Monday night, it's the personnel,  
For candidates must be examined well;  
Their good, their bad points, must be weighed,  
Before a Mason they are made.

Tuesday night of every week,  
When the good and true do meet,  
Hubbies leave us by the score,  
Though their absence we deplore.

Wednesday night they visit the sick,  
Cheer them, so they'll get well quick;  
Tell them of the fun they're missing,  
Leave them La Brea's blessing.

Thursday they must do some coaching,  
For degree night is approaching;  
Apprentices must be prepared  
For the work, soon to be shared.

Friday night they fill the chairs  
Of some brother lodge of theirs;  
Giving work of such perfection  
Rivals have a pale complexion.

Saturday they must complete  
Five thirds—therefore meet.  
Don the high hat, pound the gavel,  
Masonic intricacies unravel.

Sunday, ah! a day of rest!  
With their presence we are blessed,  
But they want to stay at home,  
While we pine afar to roam.

But I'm sure it's all forgiven  
When we dance in seventh heaven,  
Tripping the light fantastic measures  
To Bill's Southland syncopators.

Then we forget the nights alone  
Wondering when he will be home,  
For we meet such a jolly crowd,  
Of La Brea we, too, are proud!"

The year was fraught with many problems, such as all new lodges undergo during the early years of their existence. While the year dealt kindly with the lodge in its progress and developments, the grim reaper removed Brother Anthony C. B. Zeunder from the rolls of the lodge.

The year likewise marked the transition of the lodge from its probationary stage under the dispensation to that of a successful lodge operating under a charter.

It is recorded that on the 6th day of September, 1927, application was duly made to the Grand Lodge of Masons of the State of California for the issuance of a charter. Phil Kalech bore the brunt of the burden in getting the coaching committee well established and the satisfactory manner in which the candidates passed their examinations is evidence of the thoroughness of Phil and his gang.

Properly kept records are essential to any institution and La Brea was very fortunate in having secured Lloyd Fruehling as its Secretary, as his zeal, industry and patience are attributes which stood La Brea in good stead, and he served the lodge diligently and faithfully as Secretary for twelve years and at a considerable financial sacrifice to himself.

Fred Lowe served the lodge well and faithfully as its first Tyler and as we all know, the importance of this station, in all too many cases, is overlooked by the members, and a kindly pat on the back and a friendly handshake will always show the Tyler that we appreciate his services.

LODGE CHARTER

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The Grand Lodge of the jurisdiction of California having been pleased to grant a charter perpetuating the existence of La Brea Lodge, we therefore find that the first meeting under the charter was held Monday, October 17, 1927, at Wilshire Masonic Temple, and by direction of the Grand Master, our beloved Brother Samuel E. Burke, was designated to act in his place and stead for the purpose of the constituting the lodge and the installation of its officers. Samuel E. Burke, acting as Grand Master, appointed a full line of acting Grand Lodge officers, consisting of inspectors of the Los Angeles jurisdiction, to assist him in the constituting the lodge and installation of its officers under the charter.

In due ceremony the charter was duly accepted and the lodge was proclaimed to be a duly chartered and constituted lodge.

The Grand Master installed the following brethren to serve as the first officers of the lodge under the newly proclaimed charter:

- |                                   |                |
|-----------------------------------|----------------|
| William Thomas Wheeling . . . . . | Master         |
| William Horatio Parcels . . . . . | Senior Warden  |
| Roy Lyon Haslett . . . . .        | Junior Warden  |
| Clyde Curtius Caillet . . . . .   | Treasurer      |
| Lloyd Herbert Fruehling . . . . . | Secretary      |
| Edwin Jackson Meister . . . . .   | Chaplain       |
| William Henry Barker . . . . .    | Senior Deacon  |
| Philip Kalech . . . . .           | Junior Deacon  |
| Harold Caywood Hall . . . . .     | Marshal        |
| William Wallace Wedding . . . . . | Junior Steward |
| Russell Lawrence Ray . . . . .    | Senior Steward |
| Fred Perry Lowe . . . . .         | Tiler          |



While the initial ceremonies instituting La Brea Lodge had much importance, yet the meeting of October 17, 1927, at which La Brea passed from dispensation to a chartered lodge, evidenced the fact that that which had gone before was only the initial step toward all momentous goal of Masonic accomplishment. The issuance of the charter was the evidence of the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of the state of California that the new lodge, by reason of that which had gone before, possessed those qualifications of a better understanding of Masonic principles through the medium of Masonic teachings. Jordan Lodge, Crescenta Lodge, Baldwin Park Lodge and La Brea Lodge were constituted at the same time and place, and the ceremony was indeed impressive, yet we like to believe that it was in honor of our worthy brothers who, during the year that the lodge was under dispensation, ably demonstrated to Grand Lodge the proper administration of its affairs.

The first thirteen Entered Apprentices, after they became Master Masons, originate the "12 and 1" club, which had as its purpose the upholding of the principles of Freemasonry, and particularly, to keep the brethren interested in the welfare of La Brea Lodge. V. K. Shimmer, better known as "Shimmy," was elected by the club's membership to serve as president. This club, which had an influence over the lodge's destinies for many years, started the nucleus of a Masonic library for La Brea Lodge, as well as sponsoring a Masonic study class, and it is indeed to be regretted that such a club did not continue to be a permanent part of La Brea's development down through the years. There were no fees for entrance nor dues for membership to this club, and all Master Masons were eligible for membership in the club, after they had passed the Master Masons examination for proficiency.

## LA BREA'S FIRST BIRTHDAY AND ANNUAL MUSTER

Fried chicken sho' am fine, so am lemon pie—if we had had a finger bowl, the boys would not have cried.

It was one "grand and glorious feeling" experienced by La Brea Lodge members November 15th, when our first Annual Muster brought all together into one sacred band of friendship and fraternal brotherhood to celebrate our first birthday.

Acknowledging with sincere thanks the untiring efforts of "Bill" Wedding, Russell Ray and their assistants for such a splendid repast, the entire membership voiced their approval of the dinner with much applause.

Immediately after dinner the brethren retired to the lodge room and our good brothers and advisers, Samuel Burke, Past Grand Master of California, and Lee Mullen, Inspector of our district, were called upon for speeches by "Bill" Wheeling, our esteemed Master.

Brother Burke was in his usual good form and delivered an impressive discourse on "Fraternal Friendship." He let it be known that the Square and Compass did not necessarily signify a bond of friendship. It was entirely with the individual Mason.

Brother Lee Mullen, known throughout this state (and Wisconsin) for his pleasing personality, and for knowing how to put things over in grand style, followed Brother Burke with one single serious thought, and that was: "Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together

in unity." Immediately after this utterance, he came out of the state of sobriety and was his usual self.

Yes, siree, we had a huge crowd of jolly good brothers at La Brea's birthday celebration. "Bill" Wheeling stated there was never such a gathering since Lee Mullen made his last political speech in Wisconsin, when "Mulligan" refused to contest Lee's single vote for the office of Justice of the Peace.

Letters were received from several brethren who expressed regrets for not being present to share in La Brea's hospitality.

Brother Graves was still selling soap when last heard from.

"Tony" Hookanson, who has a laundry, was on his "battletour"—we mean honeymoon.

Jimmy Mann was manning a U. S. rifle, and being a buck private, could not very well give orders to a "second louie."

We all missed Albert Phelan, and sincerely believe his thoughts were of La Brea at that time.

We also missed the Brothers Burtons and Wilson.

The entertainment was arranged by Roy Haslett, who obtained the same from Central Avenue.

In memory of Brother Anthony Conrad Paquet Zeuner, who passed to the great unknown magnificence of a better life beyond the grave, a silent tribute was offered.

To our good Brothers Albert Boswell and "Heinie" Heintzelman, we are indebted for the flowers that adorned the banquet tables and the ice that cooled the inside of the refrigerator.

This annual Muster is the "Grand-daddy" of the succeeding Musters and let it be said that there never has been a single lapse of this festive occasion down through the years, and may these annual events never wane.

### THREE GREAT LIGHTS

We bring serenity to your life. No human pursuit gives more pleasure to your days than the inspirations of our rays.

We are outwardly, your own accomplishment, but in the business of us, God is your more than equal partner.

We are at once your solace in sorrow and your inspiration for all that is worthwhile in this life.

Our outstretched hands welcome you at the end of the day; our arms reach yearningly for you when you return from the longer absence.

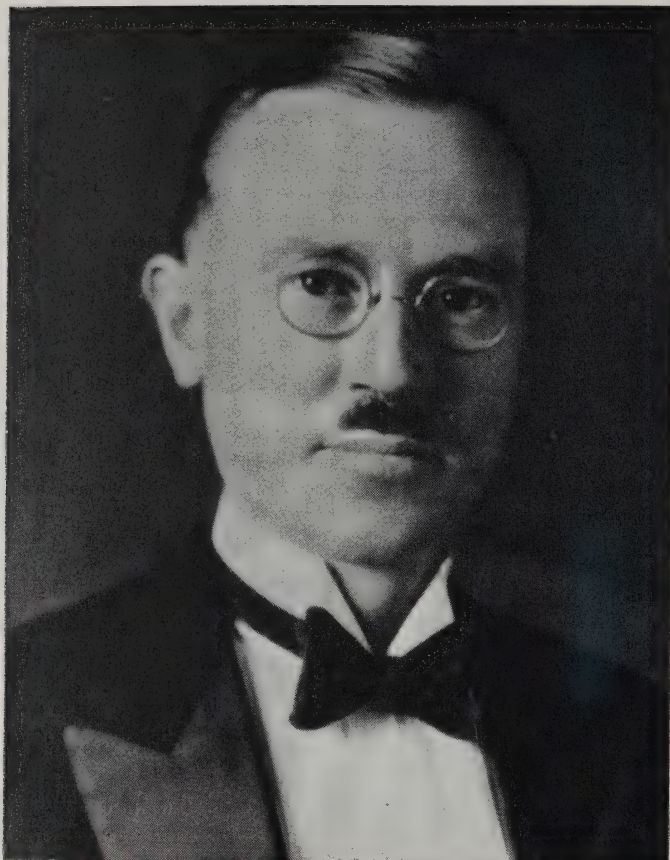
We are placed where your eyes can best see us; where the first real step shows you the cleaner and brighter pathway of life; where lies the foundation of health and strength that makes you worthy of citizenship.

We teach you the great lesson of patience, since the rotation of our fruition may not be hurried but must proceed slowly, investing your hearts with our teachings, as has been ordained from the beginning of time.

We keep your feet on the ground spiritually, and something, none the less actual because unseen, flows from us into your body and soul, something that makes you valiant and gives you the joy of living.

We are your guide, your faith, your hope,—nay, your very life; for without our enlightening rays all would be darkness.

We are your Three Great Lights of Masonry.



WILLIAM HORATIO PARCELS  
Worshipful Master  
1928



## Chapter II

With the Masonic year 1928, La Brea Lodge installed its second "Bill," William Horatio Parcels. "Bill," in temperament, was as different from "Bill" Wheeling as day and night. Bill the second was aggressive, dynamic, colorful and gave evidence of his military background.

Born in Kirksville, Missouri, July 1, 1895; when five years of age he said to his parents, "show me," and in 1900 he came to the City of the Angels. One year later he moved to Ballona Beach, now known as Playa Del Rey. At that time Venice was known as duck hunting grounds, and during "Bill's" sojourn there, the Pacific Electric line from Los Angeles to Redondo was constructed.

In 1903 "Bill" began his residence in Palo Verde Valley, attending the first school built in that valley. This school, primitive in construction, had arrow weed walls ten inches thick; willow poles and other crude materials took an important part in the building. Eight grades were taught in a single room, and it was an easy matter for a pupil in the sixth grade to review work of a lower grade, however, difficult for a lower grade pupil to understand the teachings of the higher grades. The nearest railroad was seventy-five miles away. "Bill" does not say whether he walked to the nearest railroad station to watch the trains arrive and depart.

At this time "Bill" was too young to be a traveling salesman, but it seems that he was a traveling school boy, for in 1904 San Bernardino claimed him and he resided there for twelve years. He attended school regularly in the county seat of San Bernardino County, California; this city having been settled by Mormons in 1851. His boyhood experiences in San Bernardino County were many, full of the joys and pleasures that were afforded him in this summer and winter health resort. It is his experiences in the San Bernardino Mountains that Bill likes to recall. He is able to keep you interested for hours relating happenings of his boyhood, and fondly remembers the time, when nine years of age, he drove a team over the switchbacks in the San Bernardino Mountains.

On June 19, 1916, the California National Guard was called into active service on the Mexican border; having the rank of corporal before his departure, he was later promoted to sergeant during service at Nogales, Arizona. Returning to San Bernardino in November, 1916, he was mustered out of active service. After four months of civilian life, he moved to Calexico, California, and while there was again ordered into active service March 26, 1917.

On April 1, 1917, Bill entered into wedlock with Jessie C. Childers, a popular and charming girl who had brought love and romance into his big heart; and like most marriages, two children came into their happy lives to bless their home. And little Hattie Lee, with her mother, shares with Bill the pleasures that are accorded them in this life. With Bill, his family ranks first, his daily work and Masonry follow. To know a man well, we must visit him at his home. To understand his character, we must first consider the love and pride he holds for his family. A good

husband and a loving father; a man among men, who numbers his friends by the score.

In May, 1918, Bill was commissioned a second lieutenant and was in active service for Uncle Sam until April 29, 1919, having served overseas from September 11, 1918, to April 11, 1919. After his release from the service, Bill returned to Calexico, residing there until April, 1925, at which time he moved to Los Angeles; and if God is willing, he desires to spend the rest of his life in sunny California. Whenever the opportunity presents itself, Bill drives into the San Bernardino Mountains, the land of his boyhood, and of course, compares these days with the present-day life there. He recalls the days when he was one of a party making preliminary surveys for the many mountain roads, now paved, and the pride of San Bernardino County. He values the experiences in those mountains while surveying, and while work occupied the major portion of his time, he managed, on numerous occasions, to fish and hunt with his friends. In these days all roads were toll roads, and automobiles were not allowed in the mountains. Therefore, the firing of a Winchester was never thought to be the blowout of a tire.

Bill's activities in small town politics for three years in Calexico as Commissioner of Finance and Accounting brings to our mind forcibly the proper handling of city, state and national affairs. His honesty and upright conduct of city administration is well known among the population of Calexico to this day. We recall having seen a pen and ink sketch of Bill in the *Chronicle*. In the center of the cartoon was the *Commissioner* himself, smaller sketches appearing on the sides. We remember one showing him as a "shavetail" in the infantry during the war; another one planning the budget, while another pictured him ravin' because his younger brother beat him at hand ball, etc. To quote the article underneath the cartoon: "As evidence that the *Chronicle* artist does not draw the color line, he selected for his victim a red-headed young man in these parts for his interest in civil and political affairs. Having reached the mature age of 26 years, Parcels recently announced he was ready to withdraw from politics and settle down, and it is reported on good authority that Mrs. Parcels concurred in this resolution. The *Chronicle* artist made the sketch the week before Bill's successor was elected. He is one of the fellows who has the courage to tell the whole world to go to he—— if he thinks he is right. And because of that very frankness he has a few enemies and a lot of friends who respect him for his honesty and loyalty."

In September, 1921, Bill petitioned Calexico Lodge No. 412 for the degrees in Masonry, and was initiated November, 1921; passed in December, 1921; and was raised to the degree of Master Mason in January, 1922. For his interest in Masonry, he was installed Senior Deacon February, 1923, elected as Junior Warden in February, 1924, and in January, 1925, was elected Senior Warden. He resigned as Senior Warden when he left for Los Angeles in April, 1925.

Bill the second, like Bill the first, was a member of the Masters and Wardens Association, devoted considerable time to the work of the Masonic Board of Relief, and his work in Grand Lodge was recognized by his appointment to the Necrology Committee. We are all familiar with his untiring efforts devoted to the welfare of La Brea Lodge, and his activities toward making La Brea a successful lodge. As a charter member he was selected to serve as Senior Warden during 1926-27, and assisted with much

time, thought and labor to successfully cope with the many problems that were presented to him as Senior Warden. He had the love of his brethren at heart, their welfare at all times, and decided judiciously questions that came before him as Master.

Following his service as Master of La Brea Lodge, we find that he became engrossed in the activities of the U. S. Naval Reserve, first as an ensign, and then as lieutenant junior grade in the commissary (I hope that I have the name of the department correct, for I once described it as the quartermaster's corps and I can still hear "Bill" bellowing about me being a "land-lubber"). Bill's switch from the army to the navy gave him the title of an "amphibian." On the advent of World War II, Bill was inducted in the navy as a lieutenant junior grade, and by diligently applying himself, he was discharged at the end of World War II as a full commander.

Since World War II, we have seen little of Bill, but we do know that he has occupied several positions of trust, and in recent years he has been employed by the Right of Way Department of the County of Los Angeles.

The following were duly elected and installed for the Masonic Year 1928:

William Horatio Parcels . . . . .	Worshipful Master
Roy Lyon Haslett . . . . .	Senior Warden
William Henry Barker . . . . .	Junior Warden
Clyde Curtius Caillet . . . . .	Treasurer
Lloyd Herbert Fruehling . . . . .	Secretary
Theodore Alwin Heinold . . . . .	Chaplain
Philip Kalech . . . . .	Senior Deacon
William Wallace Wedding . . . . .	Junior Deacon
Charles Benjamin Goodridge . . . . .	Marshal
Russell Lawrence Ray . . . . .	Senior Steward
Zellner Oakes Hart . . . . .	Junior Steward
W. James Mann . . . . .	Organist
Fred Perry Lowe . . . . .	Tiler

The installation was under the capable supervision of Brother Walter L. Berger, Past Master of Westlake Lodge, No. 392, and Lee T. Mullen, Inspector of the 83rd Masonic district, as master of ceremonies.

The board of trustees of La Brea Lodge was composed of: Ben A. Burton, one year; Roy C. Burton, two years; William T. Wheeling, three years.

William T. Wheeling, in stepping down from the dignified oriental chair, which he had filled with credit to himself and honor to the fraternity, and who possesses the love and affection of his fellow members, was presented with the petition for the degrees of the Los Angeles Scottish Rite Bodies, accompanied by the necessary fee as a token of the love, affection and admiration of the membership for Brother Bill's untiring and devoted service for a period of almost two years in guiding the destinies of La Brea Lodge. Thus, Bill Wheeling became the first Past Master of La Brea Lodge.

The year closed with V. Kenneth Shimer, associate editor of the La Brea Bulletin, breaking forth with a letter addressed to the, "Dear Lads and Lassies of Radio Land," and we quote Shimmy as follows:

"You know, I have an organ at my house—one of those that, when you are playing it, you look like you are riding a bicycle. I was telling some of the boys about it and Bish asked, 'Have you a monkey for it, Shimmy?' and I said, 'No, I haven't, Bish, drop over some night.'



"But the thing that gets my goat is the worthy brothers who dash into lodge, sign up, borrow a smoke and then beat it. It ain't right, kids, it ain't right.

"I was razzing Blank about getting in late. Les said, 'Why, I was here bright and early.' He may have been early but he wasn't— Well, I don't like to say it—but ask him if he knows anyone who spent nine years in the first reader.

"Ralph Bandini—there's a smart egg—I have known him man and boy for nearly 20 years. I got in the habit of asking his advice on everything. You can count on his knowledge for anything. Yes, sir. Why, only the other day I asked Ralph: 'What is death?' And, quick as a flash, he said, 'It is a touchdown against Stanford.'

"Rachal Lewis, God's gift to the ladies, is among us again. A perfect gentleman. Yes, sir. He never struck a lady in his life—without first raising his hat.

"Poor Hookanson—beating his wife already! The judge fined him for hitting his wife with a golf club—and he doesn't play golf, neither does he belong to any clubs.

"'Bru' Leonard once asked a boy what was on his neck. The kid answered: 'A freckle.' 'Bru' said it was the first time he ever saw a freckle walk.

"Remember what the Master said about soliciting business within the lodge? That little talk went straight home and none of us will forget it, but it has Dr. Burnett worried. He is afraid to say to a brother: 'How are you feeling' for fear that he is drumming up a little trade.

"Tried to get that \$7.62 from Joe Brown, but he said that the only thing that gives are his knees. I believe him.

"Zell Hart said it is a boil on his neck. However, I am going to ask his wife if he is a great necker.

"Lloyd Laumann is the only Mason who is privileged to solicit business in the anteroom. He collects advertising for the Di-Plod-o-Cus.

"Why, o, why, did they select 'Diplodocus' for the name of our bulletin. There is nothing ancient or prehistoric about a lodge when you are old.

"Want to know why Bill Parcels is so soldier-like? Well, when he was a kid all he wanted for Christmas was wooden soldiers. He still has them.

"Roy Burton was instrumental in sending a criminal up the road last month. Wonder what the reward was!

"Now, kiddies, I must sign off, and in closing, let us all join in singing 'How dry I am.'

"Ta, ta, kiddies, until next month."

We thus find Shimmy lamenting over the name "Diplodocus," and, in order that history may properly record the origin of the word "Diplodocus," which with the issue of February, 1928, and in all subsequent years, became the official masthead of La Brea's official bulletin, we briefly record its meaning.

Lloyd Fruehling, as pointed out in a previous chapter, being of an inquisitive nature and believing that the new lodge bulletin should have a name peculiar and significant of the area in which the lodge was located, diligently studied the early history of California and particularly of Los Angeles, and it has even been reported that he communed with the spiritual world through the medium of one of the Egyptian mummies in the Los Angeles Museum at Exposition Park, and, lo and behold, he came forth with

the name "Diplodocus," which, he informed the trusting brethren, was the species of dinosaur which had been found on the Rancho of Major Hancock, but a few blocks from La Brea Lodge. Upon the Rancho were found large deposits of a natural, waterproof material called "brea" composed of dried or hardened mixture of asphalt and sand or gravel. When lumber was an impossible factor, the roof of buildings hereabouts were covered with this natural, waterproof material. These flowing brea deposits surrounded springs of water. This site is now the property of the City and County of Los Angeles, comprising approximately 30 acres, which have been improved for park purposes. The deposits on Rancho La Brea have been variously styled, "La Brea Pits," "The Death Trap," "The Fossil Gardens," "The Asphalt Beds," "The Bone Field," "The Pit," "Rancho La Brea Pits," "Rancho La Brea Formation," "La Brea Pleistocene Beds," etc., which were intended to designate the deposits of bones in the tar pits on the Hancock Rancho. Many deposits of fossil material were removed from these pits and are now on exhibit in the great historical museum in Exposition Park.

Lloyd, in his research, apparently grabbed hold of the term of the wrong dinosaur, and history records that the species that he would have us believe were found in the La Brea pits, were unknown to this part of California.

However, the name has prevailed through the years and it has created considerable comment, even from those who cannot pronounce it correctly.

The year 1928 was an equally active year for the conferring of degrees, and the following brethren were elected, and those whose names have an asterisk in front of them were raised during the year:

- \*Charles Fincher Laverty ("Smiling Chollie," Master in 1946)
- \*Elisha Estes Evans
- \*Kenneth Fred Ervin
- \*Hugh Neil Cameron ("Hugh, Sr." to distinguish him from his son, who served as La Brea's Master in 1953.)
- \*Reginald Elinor Govoneaur Stevens
- \*Archa Evan Hoffman
- \*Edwin Pascal Whitney
- \*Oliver Alexander Bourke
- \*Jack Mosby Evans (the 100th living member of La Brea Lodge)
- \*James Dean Haskell ("Jimmie")
- \*Arthur Walter Rainhall Barck ("Doc." Barck)
- \*William Elmer Peuterbaugh ("Bill")
- \*John Marion Kendall
- \*Lee Henry Sterling
- \*James Kign Butler
- \*Joseph Howard Emgomar
- \*Wesley Hearst John Ross
- \*Charles Harrison Forbes
- \*Martin Luther Thomas (Army chaplain in World War II and discharged as a major)
- \*Samuel Caldwell Have, Jr.
- \*Clyde Herman Gessler
- \*Wilkie Collins Wing
- \*Willard Alphonso Bailey
- Harvey Harrick
- Edward Prescott Gallaudet ("Ed")

Fred Hunstin Breylinger

Lyle Robert Pope

Ralph Keehner Beall

David Morris Evans ("Dave," Master in 1938, and Commander in U. S. Navy World War II)

Walter Scott Coen

The following brethren affiliated during the year with La Brea Lodge:

Alvah Joseph Pray

John Otter

Walter St. Clair Heaton

Carl William Walser

LeRoy Clifton Ackley

Merle Jonas Markel

Otto Jacques Endres

Robert Henry Harris

Harry Shelly Harper

Gifts made in the past to La Brea Lodge, together with the names of the brethren making such gifts, were gratefully recorded on the secretary's records as follows:

The letter "G," gift of A. C. P. Zeuner, deceased.

The American flag, gift of the charter members.

The altar bible, gift of Russell L. Ray.

The altar cloth, gift of William T. Wheeling, made and embroidered by Mrs. Wheeling.

The desk lamp, gift of Lloyd Fruehling.

The test oath Bible, gift of Russell Ray.

The silk hat, gift of Brother Jack Bean.

The bookcase, gift of the Twelve and One Club.

Book ends and small set of various Masonic writings, gift of C. B. Goodridge.

Mackey's history of Freemasonry, gift of C. B. Goodridge.

Card tables, gift of H. J. Bishop.

Lamp shade, gift of W. W. Knoth.

Small lamp stand, gift of A. E. Bowman.

A vacancy occurred in the official line of officers, due to the resignation of Roy Lyon Haslett, as Senior Warden, and Philip Kalech, as Senior Deacon, who, due to continued absence from the city, found it necessary to tender their resignations. The following brethren were elected and appointed and installed:

William Henry Barker, Senior Warden; J. Otis Barnett, Junior Warden; C. B. Goodridge, Chaplain; William W. Wedding, Senior Deacon; Russell L. Ray, Junior Deacon; W. Lloyd Laumann, Marshal; Zellner Oakes Hart, Senior Steward; Theodore Alvin Heinold, Junior Steward.

The lodge was saddened by the death of Joseph Shipley Brown, the first Master Mason raised in La Brea Lodge, and by the death of Arnold Vernon Smith, who was raised a Master Mason in La Brea Lodge in September, 1927. The passing of these brethren was further evidence that man born of woman is a few days, he cometh forth like a flower and is cut down; he fleeth also as a shadow and continueth not.

#### GIFTS RECORDED

An unusual proceeding occurred on the evening of October 16, 1928, when the lodge was called to refreshment for the purpose of admitting Mrs. Rozelle Oertle Brown, beloved wife of our deceased brother, Joseph Shipley



Brown, in order that she could present her gift to La Brea Lodge in memory of her late husband. This gift comprised three paintings, one for each station, and the canopies and drapes for these stations. The presentation was made on her behalf by William T. Wheeling. William H. Parcels accepted the gift for La Brea Lodge.

With the gift of these canopies and paintings, another chapter was written in the history of La Brea Lodge. The three paintings depict portions of King Solomon's temple, and which, when lighted, by indirect lighting, brings out the marvelous details and color. The paintings were done by Mrs. Brown and the ornate iron work surmounting the drapes was also designed by her. The quiet dignity and harmonious colorings show the most careful and painstaking thought and words cannot express the thanks of La Brea Lodge for this wonderful gift.

A short description of these canopies and paintings follows:

The painting over the oriental chair represents the east entrance to the walls around King Solomon's temple, leading to the inner court. The sun is just rising and illuminates the arch. Two winged figures, half man and half animal, guard the stairway leading to the arch. The frame is walnut, inlaid with different kinds of wood to represent the level, plumb, square and compass, trowel, common gavel and Bible. In the center of the top of the frame the All-Seeing Eye is hand carved and both the eye and the rays are gold leafed. This frame is all hand carved with a border of acacia leaves running around the outside.

The picture in the West represents the Most Holy Place, the Holy of Holies, the most sacred portion of King Solomon's temple, surrounded on three sides by highly polished walls of pure gold. Within this enclosure there was but one article of furniture and its contents, i. e., the Ark of the Covenant, containing the Testimony. The frame is hand carved with olive leaves and a portion representing beaten gold. Entire frame is covered with pure gold leaf.

The picture in the South represents miscellaneous details of King Solomon's Temple. Laver and altar of Burnt Offering and seven branched candlesticks. An angel guards the stairway rising to entrance of Most Holy of Holies. The frame is old gold intermingled with grey-green and dark blue. It is also hand carved to represent oak leaves and a beaten gold effect.

The canopies have a hand wrought iron grill running around the top. East represents the rising sun behind forest of acacia trees. West and South acacia trees only. Drapes are of royal mulberry shade with gold cord and tassel and gold fringe.

Brother Ralph Bandini assisted Mrs. Brown in the selection of the designs for the painting. Brother Peuterbaugh was responsible for the complete renovation of the interior of the lodge room.

At the time Mrs. Brown's gift was presented, Brother Bert Hill did all the wiring for the lights for the canopies and Art Bowman built the frames which support the canopies.

Truly an example, my brethren, of the love which Mrs. Brown and these men hold for La Brea Lodge. Mrs. Roselle Oertle Brown can well be termed a member of La Brea Lodge.

La Brea recognizes her generosity, her graciousness and sincerely appreciates the fineness of her sentiments, the modesty of her nature, and the

beauty of her character. To the memory of Joseph Shipley Brown these treasures are dedicated.

## SECOND ANNUAL MUSTER

The Second Annual Muster was held on June 13, 1928, marking the end of the second milestone in the history of the lodge. The guests of honor were Past Grand Master Samuel E. Burke and Right Worshipful John Stewart Ross, Senior Grand Warden, the Worshipful Lee T. Mullen. Short talks were given by Brothers Ross and Burke of the progress of each year compared with the past and increase in proposals of those who are members or who will become members in the future will be able to consider themselves honored to a very great degree.

Under the wise guidance and steady hand of Worshipful Master William H. Parcels, the lodge made marked progress. It was said he was gentle to judge, firm and yet just in his decisions. And to him La Brea Lodge will always owe a debt.



C. B. Goodridge, more affectionately known as "C. B. G.," in a few well chosen words, composed the following sonnet:

### THE YESTERDAY, TONIGHT

As I sit alone tonight, my mind keeps turning  
Back through channels long ago flowed by;  
And I cannot keep my lonesome heart from yearning  
For the war days when we were buddies, you and I.

Once we trod war's terrible path together,  
In your presence there was courage, strength and cheer;  
Then it mattered not how strong grew war's weather;  
I was happy just to know that you were near.

But tonight—there is no linking past with present,  
You're no longer by my side, a buddy, true;  
And no longer does life's sky loom bright and pleasant,  
For when you fell that day, the sunshine left with you.

Down, yes, down life's fleeting current I am drifting,  
Often thinking of the heart you left to ache—  
But I'll shed my tears in silence, always lifting  
Up my hand, to bring you here for old time's sake.

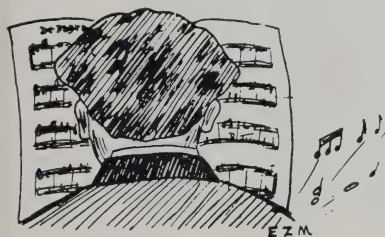
So, for you, my buddy, a lease on life I've taken,  
And my heart is filled with longing and regret;  
'tis so hard, my buddy, to feel one is forsaken,  
But 'tis you, dear pal, who I, myself, cannot forget.



M. "Bill" Parcels believes the floor work should be "soldier-like." How would the Chaplain look delivering the charge, as above?



The feelings of an Entered Apprentice, before admittance, is here depicted.



Albert Phelan says: "E. Z. Mann," and Jim have been easin' up ever since.



J. Harvey trying so hard to remember the password.



Brother Nielsen says the wives of members are "down" on ye editor for saying that "if momma don't let poppa go to lodge every Tuesday night, poppa's going to get a momma who will." To keep on the right side of the ladies (and that is back of 'em) we are publishing their likeness in this issue, and, of course, they will feel elated to know their pictures is in der papers!

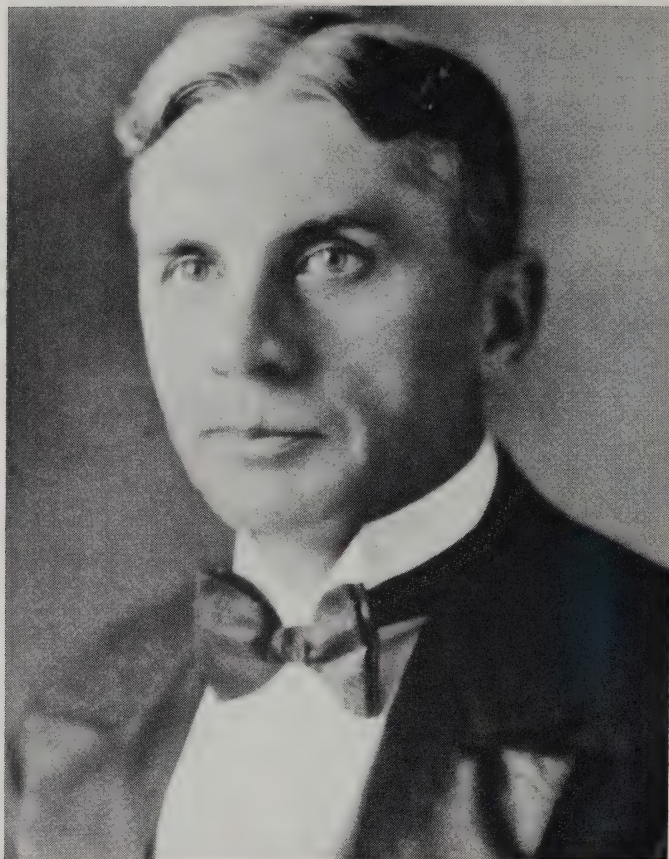


Our worthy Secretary, Lloyd Fruehling, after proof-reading the Di-plod-o-cus, remembers the printer needs a check.



Ralph Bandini says "fish" reminds him of a football star—it takes the right kind of tackle to stop 'em.





WILLIAM HENRY BARKER  
Worshipful Master  
1929

## Chapter III

William H. Barker, the third Bill to occupy the oriental chair in the East, and during the year 1929, is one of the most modest of men, but with it all, he is a credit to Masonry and exemplifies those qualities of kindliness, firmness, but tempered with a Christian approach.

'Twas persuasion, then begging, and finally threatening to refuse the privilege of ever nominating him again for anything, we managed to hire one of Bob Shuler's "hide-an'-seek" men to find out something about Bill Barker's past life. You would never guess just how we finally obtained some data for inclusion in this issue. Bill is, as we have said, the most modest of men. How he ever proposed marriage, his wife did not say. She was in Baltimore at the time, and of course, we all know Bill knows how to write. What say ye?

Of course, Bill knows how to smile, even though he was born in the gloomy and smoky city of Pittsburgh, Pa., July 25, 1883. And to imagine he lived in and near that city for about twenty years! Graduating from the public schools, he entered into commercial studies, later enthused with the idea of earning his own bread and butter, he embarked upon the "sea of work," pushing a pencil over journals and ledgers.

Like the majority of the population of Pittsburgh, being in the smoky darkness, his one ambition was to find light. Knowing Los Angeles "sells" it to tourists, having read all about it in various and sundry railway advertising folders, he pictured in his mind the garden spot of the world; and today you will find him in his garden at the end of a hoe.

Bill was a champion job-getter—space does not permit including the list of various firms and positions he held. He had a goal, and was seeking a "touchdown" worthy of his amicable disposition, the desire to succeed, and above all, to be satisfied with the fruits of his labor after reaching that goal line. He has long since learned by observation and experience the value of selecting a life work and staying with it, and not being satisfied unless the firm he represents is aware that he is an asset to those he represents. He knows the value of building up reserves of all kinds. Bill has lived in Los Angeles ever since December 16, 1910. He was at one time with the telephone company, and perhaps that is the reason he looks startled when the secretary reads the large amounts of phone bills each stated meeting. Telephone operators seemed not to be his weakness in the early period of his residence here, for soon after he found some "light" with the Pacific Light and Power Corporation. His employment with this company in different capacities has not been interrupted, this corporation having merged with the Southern California Edison Company in 1917, and with which company he remained until his retirement in 1950.

Always willing to share his success and happiness with others; his pen expressing the thoughts of his mind and heart, he persuaded one of the sweetest and most charming little ladies in Baltimore, Maryland, to become his wife. 'Twas on the 22nd day of September, 1915, when, after a siege of a year, he finally convinced Mary Elizabeth Kugler that life with him in the far west was the best. And today he is as happy and contented as any man would

want to be. Privileged to call her his wife is another instance of woman's monumental patience. One child blessed this happy marriage, William Henry, Jr., and Bill is a proud grandfather.

Tucked away in a "memory corner," Bill remembered a remark his father once made—that there were many different fraternal orders, but only one "real" order, the Masonic. His petition for the degrees in Masonry was favorably acted upon by University Lodge, and on November 7, 1917, he was made an Entered Apprentice, passed on January 21, 1918, and raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason March 13, 1918. Seeking further "Light," he was accepted for the Scottish Rite degrees, and on becoming a 32° Mason, he was admitted into Al Malaikah Temple of the Shrine. Bill has often remarked about the beauty and sublimity of the Scottish Rite degrees, which awakens awe and reverence in any man fortunate enough to witness them, and appreciated the valuable lessons and great purposes of the Shrine, however, he clings closer to Blue Lodge activities as a matter of preferment, and we predict he will never be weaned away from it.

Bill was a charter member of the Masonic Club of this city, and has been active in other organizations over a period of years, but his favorite ones, outside of La Brea Lodge, seem to be the Edison Masonic Club and the Deauville Beach Club.

In 1920, Bill demitted from University Lodge to Hollywood Lodge, having purchased a home on Vista Street near Sunset. He remained a member of Hollywood Lodge until the privilege of becoming a charter member of La Brea presented itself, at which time he was appointed Senior Deacon. His election as Junior Warden followed in 1927, later being elevated to Senior Warden for the year 1928, and finally, to occupy the oriental chair in the East as Worshipful Master during the year 1929. Being thus honored by the brethren of his lodge was the highest award within the power of a Blue Lodge membership.

Bill took an active part in the formation of La Brea Lodge, and his interest in its affairs is known to all of us. Respected for his fairness in all things, meeting all problems successfully, devoting much time, thought and labor for the welfare of La Brea, we can truthfully say Bill holds the love of his brethren. He has been impartial in his decisions, and unbiased in affairs affecting individual members. He is a man who appreciates the cooperation of his officers and the members. While we attribute the continued success of La Brea Lodge to Bill's knowledge of things Masonic, yet he will probably tell you that the praise belongs to you as a member of La Brea, and your cooperation and interest has placed La Brea Lodge where it is today.

At this time we feel as we did when writing of Bill Wheeling and Bill Parcels—we reach out into space for words to express the sentiments of the membership to this worthy brother who has so successfully engineered our lodge into a reality of better understanding, love of our brother, and upholding the teachings of the Masonic Fraternity. To Bill Barker we owe much, and his service to La Brea particularly stands out in the "light" of this great order of ours. Like the First Methodist Episcopal Church of Hollywood, the Masonic fraternity values him as a member, and the membership at large is proud that so worthy a man has served them as Worshipful Master this year. We regretted his retirement in December, but like the two faithful Past Masters who preceded him, he will remain active and interested in La Brea Lodge—



that's our prediction. May the "light" of day be as bright for him in the future as he would have it for La Brea Lodge.

### OFFICERS INSTALLED

The year 1929 began auspiciously with a fine corps of officers, with retiring Worshipful Master William H. Parcels acting as installing officer and Lee T. Mullen, Inspector of the 74th District as Master of Ceremonies. The officers elective and appointive of La Brea Lodge No. 650, were duly inducted into office on December 18, 1928, as follows:

William H. Barker . . . . .	Worshipful Master
Jay O. Burnett . . . . .	Senior Warden
William W. Wedding . . . . .	Junior Warden
Clyde C. Caillet . . . . .	Treasurer
Lloyd H. Fruehling . . . . .	Secretary
Lloyd Laumann . . . . .	Chaplain
Russell L. Ray . . . . .	Senior Deacon
Zellner O. Hart . . . . .	Junior Deacon
Ralph Bandini . . . . .	Marshal
Ted Heinold . . . . .	Senior Steward
C. B. Goodridge . . . . .	Junior Steward
Fred P. Lowe . . . . .	Tiler

It fell to the lot of Bill Wheeling, representing the lodge, to present the Past Master's jewel, in the form of a Past Master's diamond ring, to William H. Parcels, as an expression of the admiration and appreciation of the lodge for his constant and unselfish way in which he conducted the affairs of the lodge during the year as Master.

A. E. Bowman's term as member of the board of trustees having expired, William H. Parcels was elected for the three year term, the board of trustees being as follows: Ralph Gray, one year; William T. Wheeling, two years; William H. Parcels, three years.

C. B. Goodridge, the first editor of the *Diplodocus*, and also editor in the year 1928, was drafted to carry on in the same capacity, and, as the various issues demonstrated, he had a singular ability for this work, and it was largely due to his individual efforts that the *Diplodocus* became and continued to be one of the best edited bulletins in California, and many years were to pass before C. B. Goodridge was able to pass on the responsibility of editing this bulletin to other shoulders.

That the national wave of prosperity which prevailed throughout the nation in the preceding years was still holding full sway is evidenced by the substantial number of petitions and applications received during the year.

We find that the following brethren were either elected or raised, and those with an asterisk before their names were raised during the year.

- \*Charles Willis Eckhart
- Charles John Linnell
- \*Harvey Herrick
- \*Edward Prescott Gallaudet ("Ed")
- \*Fred Humiston Breylinger
- \*Lyle Robert Pope
- \*Edward Milton Siefer, Jr. ("Ed")
- \*Robert Maurice Barker ("Bob")
- \*Carl Berringer Goetz (a radio manufacturer)

- \*Ralph Keehner Beall
- \*Adolph Heinrich Koebig, Jr. (a nationally known engineer)
- \*Russell Dean Collings ("Russ")
- \*Francis Leon Gerew
- \*Hugo Charles Jacobsmeyer
- \*Walter Scott Coen (a prominent attorney)
- Thomas Alexander Cowen
- \*Donald Jerome Lindsay
- \*Louis Byron Stribling (a title company executive)
- \*LeRoy Henderson
- \*David Morris Evans ("Dave," Master in 1938)
- \*George Woodward Burch, Jr. ("G.B." Master in 1945)
- \*Arthur Herman Schlanert ("Art")
- \*George Frank Meitner (Master 1940)
- \*Clare Downing Fishburn
- \*Harold Hugh Bell
- \*George Arthur Davies, Jr.
- \*Johnson Gaines Green
- William John Ford Hanes ("Ford," owner of a mercantile store)
- Clyde Simons Kier
- Vere William Charles Cheesman ("Bill")

Not to be outdone by the large number of members elected to receive the three degrees of Masonry, the lodge was equally pleased to welcome the following brethren by affiliation:

- Walter H. Reber, of Glendora Lodge No. 404, California
- Joseph Crane Rhinehart, of Blaney Lodge No. 271, Illinois
- Carl Russell Lauterwassen, of University Lodge No. 394, California
- Duncan Keith Caldwell of Sunnyside Lodge No. 577, California
- Frank Clyde Shoemaker, of Pawnee Lodge No. 82, Oklahoma (he once ran for Mayor of the City of Los Angeles)
- Clifford Walter Watson of Mystic Art Lodge No. 899, New York ("Cliff")
- William Edwin Jones, of Pentalpha Lodge, No. 202, California ("Bill" Tyler of La Brea Lodge for 8 years)
- John Steward Loofbourow, of El Centro Lodge No. 384, California (a title company executive)
- William Walter Broaddus, of Wasco Lodge No. 583, California
- Lloyd Lincoln, of Scioto Lodge No. 6, Ohio (his wife for many years was secretary for George W. Burch, Jr.)

The year, however, was not without its trials and tribulations, and Alvah Joseph Pray, born April 25, 1869, and raised March 28, 1898, was raised to that sublime lodge above on March 23, 1929.

Among the activities commenced during the year, none was more laudable than the lodge album, containing pictures of the members of the lodge, but, unfortunately, in succeeding years, the album became in disuse, but, we are happy to report, that it still forms a part of the library of the lodge.

## PAST MASTERS NIGHT

One of the outstanding events of the year was Past Masters night. Just like the days of '26 that came back to you, with Bill Wheeling, first Past Master of La Brea, and the grandpappy of them all, acting as Worshipful Master; Bill Parcels, junior Past Master and La Brea's stepson as Senior Warden; Walter Adams, Past Master by affiliation, acting as Junior Warden; our then present Master, Bill Barker, Senior Deacon; jovial Jay Burnett, La Brea's Senior Deacon, acting as Junior Deacon and a couple of K. P.'s as Senior and Junior Stewards; the Master Mason's degree was conferred on Brother Walter Scott Coen on the evening of March 26. It was interesting to note how impressed those on the sidelines were during the conferring of this degree. Illness prevented the presence of Brother John Otto and Harvey Harper, one of the Past Masters by affiliation.

## THIRD ANNUAL MUSTER

On Tuesday, November 19, 1929, for the third successful year, the brethren of La Brea Lodge assembled around the festive board and participated in our Annual Muster, and what a muster, and how we have grown. From 25 to 143 members. There are no words which can describe the extreme feeling of satisfaction to be derived from this sort of growth.

While the sublime Grand Master of the universe has been kind to us, yet there were four of our members who have answered the last call: Anthony C. P. Zeuner, Joseph S. Brown, Arnold Vernon Smith and Joseph Bray, the latter of whom passed away during 1929.

Lee T. Mullen, by this time having been qualified and adopted as a member of La Brea Lodge, performed in his usual exemplary style as Master of Ceremonies, and our good friend and brother, John Steward Ross, Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master of Masons of the State of California, and Past Grand Master Samuel E. Burke, who acted as Grand Master at both our institution and constitutional ceremonies, were present as indeed they continued to be in many subsequent years.

On this occasion for the first time, Past Grand Master Will H. Fisher was present and commented on the then current subject—the collapse of the stock market, which as shown by subsequent developments, was the forerunner of the worst depression this nation has ever faced.



"Ultra conservative systems, like worn out trends, are swept into oblivion and relegated to yesterday by the impelling force of modern progress and outstanding achievements." We are reminded of the foregoing quotation after acknowledging the progress of our younger members since their admission into the fraternity. Their achievements have been many and very conspicuous to all of us.



It is interesting to note in passing that Grand Lodge for the first and only time left its sacred quarters in San Francisco and migrated to Los Angeles, where the proceedings were conducted during the week of October 6, with the various lodges of this jurisdiction, including La Brea, acting as hosts.



### THIRD ANNUAL MUSTER BIGGER AND BETTER THAN EVER

By "Shimmie"

Our honor guests at La Brea's third Annual Muster were Right Worshipful John Stewart Ross, Deputy Grand Master, Samuel E. Burke and Will Fisher, past Grand Masters, and Worshipful Lee T. Mullen, our esteemed Inspector. Lee was delegated to act as Master of Ceremonies by our Worshipful Master, and he performed in grand style. You will all agree that Lee is a "wow" of a toastmaster. Both of our Past Masters, Bill Wheeling and Bill Parcels were present, but Lee refused to allow either of them to talk for he knew that should they get started there would be no stopping—they are that much interested in everything around La Brea, and besides, every one awaited with patience the entertainment that followed the talks of the honor guests. Bill Wheeling promised to give you something concerning these inspiring speeches.



When the roll of the membership was called at our Annual Muster, November 19th, the names of our departed brethren, Anthony Conrad Zeuner, Joseph Shipley Brown, Arnold Vernon Smith and Alva P. Pray, were called and all present stood in silence, in memory of those beloved Masons who have entered "that undiscovered country from whose bourn no traveler returns."

Those brethren who were so kind as to write, wire or send word by a member: Bernard Barton, New York; Warren Bleeker, Minneapolis; Estes Evans, Japan; Charles Forbes, Portland; Herman Graves, Oakland; Phil Kalech, Georgia; Leon Strong, Central America; Charles Wedding, Chicago; Horace Barton, Adolph Koebig, I. P. Leigh, John Otter, Lloyd Robinson, Albert Wilson and J. H. Wittmaack, Los Angeles.



Say fellow, have you noticed La Brea's sign at the entrance to our buildings? It is one worthy of favorable comment. Through the generosity of the 1929 Class, headed by our good brother David Evans, the cost of this sign was donated by them. A memorial worthy of good men, and true. We would like very much to name each Mason contributing, but our time is limited, and the printer is calling. On behalf of the lodge, we wish to convey to these worthy members the sincere thanks of the Master and brethren.



Past Masters in the Masonic Fraternity who show themselves capable and willing to serve after their retirement from the oriental chair in the East are usually given further honors and *work*; witnesseth, our own first Past Master, Bill Wheeling has served for three years and is now active on the Grand Lodge Public Schools Committee, while Bill Parcels, Junior Past Master, heretofore serving on the Board of Relief, is now a member of the Grand Lodge Committee on Necrology. La Brea Lodge is proud of their subsequent affiliations with things Masonic.

We are unable to give credit, due to the modesty of the brother who dedicated the sonnet to the official lodge button, which appears on the frontispiece of all issues of the *Diplodocus*, but its signification and what it means to wear the same can best be expressed as follows:

"When a feller wears a button  
Just like the one you do  
Don't you think it'd be right nice  
to say Brother how do you do?  
Don't have to know his family name  
That needn't count with you.  
When a feller wears a button  
Just like the one you do.

When a feller wears a button  
Just like the one you do  
Forget that old formality  
And say, Brother, how do you do.  
A feller might be slipping  
And your hail 'ud turn him true  
All because he wore a button  
Just like the one you do."



#### THE "12 AND 1" CLUB

Originated by the first thirteen Entered Apprentices (now Master Masons), who passed through the outer and inner gates of La Brea Lodge immediately after La Brea's institution, this club was composed of men who have become very enthusiastic members of our Lodge. Its purpose is to uphold the principles of Freemasonry, and, particularly, to keep the Brethren interested in the welfare of La Brea Lodge.

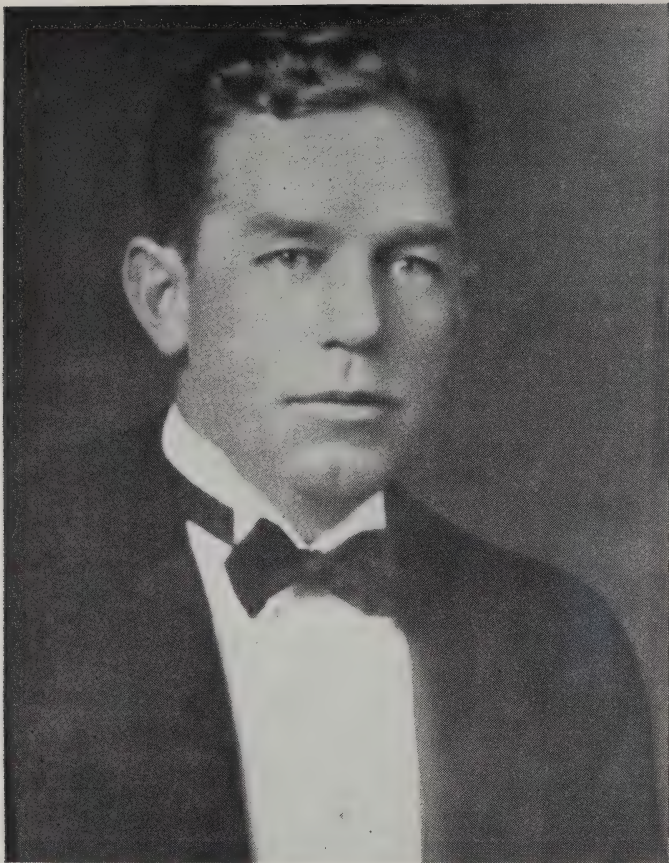
Our good Brothers, V. K. Shimer and Joe Brown were unanimously elected by the Club membership to serve as President and Vice President, respectively, and Lloyd Fruehling as Secretary. The remaining charter members of the "12 and 1" Club were equally prominent in their enthusiasm for the continued success of La Brea Lodge.



#### THE OFFICE OF A MASON

"To sow, that others may reap; to work and plant for those who are to occupy the earth when we are dead; to project our influences far into the future and live beyond our time; to rule as the Kings of Thought, over men who are yet unborn; to bless with the glorious gifts of truth and light and liberty those who will neither know the name of the giver nor care what grave his unregarded ashes repose is the true office of a Mason and the proudest destiny of a man."

—Albert Pike



JAY OTIS BURNETT  
Worshipful Master  
1930



## Chapter IV

Jay Otis Burnett, sometimes affectionately called "Doc," since he was an outstanding osteopathic doctor of many years standing, was a man whom we will long remember, not only for his excellent ritual work, but because of his interest in his fellow man.

From small acorns large oaks grow, spreading their lofty branches into the sky—from farm boys grow big-hearted men—skyscraper buildings do not obscure the view of the departing sun on the distant horizon. Sometimes the state (including Ohio) is too small to hold them—and they come to California. But we are ahead of our story.

Born in Geauga County, Ohio—in a state that has supplied more Presidents than any other in the nation, we do not wonder he is Worshipful Master of La Brea Lodge this year. Most all of Ohio's Presidents have been popular—and so has Jay Otis Burnett!

Gauga County, Ohio, was just gaining a substantial foothold among the other counties of that great state when a husky farmer-boy arrived in this world to greet his parents, who proudly bestowed upon him the imposing name of Jay Otis Burnett.

The first few years passed quickly, but not too rapidly for Jay. At the age of ten we find him standing there gazing across the broad fields into the distance—his mind on a schedule baseball game. A few minutes later he was there, "choosing sides." Right then and there he made up his mind he was going to be a professional man of baseball, and he has been swinging a club ever since—only today it's a golf club, and his profession is one of Physician and Surgeon.

Perhaps if you had been on the "lot" that day you would have predicted that there was a boy whose persistence would carry him through any project he undertook, whose interests were on baseball just then, but it would not cause him to confine himself to the sole ambition of a "home run." Which reminds us, "Doc" made many a home run in those days. The longest one, no doubt, was accomplished when his dog, in the outfield, grabbed a "high-fly" and ran away with the ball.

"Doc" was enthusiastic about everything life presented. Being a "regular" boy he always attended the "big circus" when it arrived in his home town. Fond of horses as well as dogs, he never missed an opportunity to saddle his favorite and canter round the farm. Once he rode twenty miles to see a flea circus, and surprised his parents when he returned home with a couple of bare-back riders.

We understand his parents never allowed him to smoke, and he used to brag to the neighborhood kids about his "will power." Today he has put aside his "kid" will power, and smokes the best nickel cigar on the market—not a vegetable market—even though some of you may call it a weed from his old vegetable garden.

Educated in the district and high schools of Ohio, he came to California to finish in the "high" at Redding. The great outdoors claimed his attention,

and it was at Redding he discovered something that was put into print only last week, and that was a great cavern near that city. Convict laborers on the Alturas road, 33 miles north of Redding, uncovered the entrance to the cave by mere chance. "Doc" had already discovered, a number of years ago, it extended two or three miles underground. Only recently officials of the University of California were notified. When "Doc" explored the cavern to its other end he made an exceedingly interesting discovery—that he had to retrace his footsteps to get out of the darn place.

In Los Angeles he attended college and upon graduation the degree of Doctor of Osteopathy was conferred upon him. He practiced his chosen profession in Los Angeles until 1944. We are told "Doc" was an "expert" in examining prospects for insurance. Once one of the brethren overheard the following "searching" examination:

"Name in full, but don't repeat after me—proceed. Are you a male person? Why not? Weight, height? Why aren't you properly prepared? Where born? Not Free-born, but why? State? Interstate? Why? Were you traveling west to east or stopped and put off at some way-station? Date, Year? I didn't ask for her name, and I didn't question whether you could hear. Eyesight good? Well, it doesn't matter—you're a poor blind beggar who deserves 'light.' Town? No, not clown. What is your occupation? you need not answer—I'll put it down as a 'burden bearer.' Are you crippled in any way? You say you are hog-tied with a manila rope? What sickness have you had since birth? Seasickness? Then cough up a couple of dollars—no, not yet, I have a few more questions. . . .

"What is the general condition of your wealth—I mean health? Have you ever had any of the 1000 diseases I just mentioned the past hour? Have you ever undergone a surgical operation? What for? \$1,000.00? I mean, what did you have? \$1,000.00? How many times have you received indemnity? You say you are unemployed? How would you like to work in the quarries? No, you wouldn't have to go into a mine for mineral or metallic substances"—and so, far into the night.

"Doc" always had a longing to study in Europe—especially did he want to study that powdered seals' liver, on exhibition in London, which is used in connection with anaemia and heart troubles. No, "Doc" has no "heart troubles" of his own. No, he is not married, yet, he has had many proposals, for instance, the last one: "I'll let you choose my hats if you'll let me pick out your secretary." While we do not vouch for the statement, he is so well versed in baseball, he knows all about a married man's "home runs," and probably would liken a wife to an umpire—she never would believe he was "safe" when he was "out"! The ladies cannot resist loving a manly man—you know how it is—look into the mirror, but don't let your wife see you.

Many a charming woman no doubt thinks "Doc" would be a success at the head of her family—but—he believes success means "a hole in one"; "pot-shots" on hunting expeditions; a long line of patients in front of his office (which he has enjoyed for several years), and being Worshipful Master of one of the most progressive Masonic Lodges in California, over which he has presided and so successfully administered his good judgment to the satisfaction of our membership. Most men are born with some masterful instinct that is bound to show itself in later years, hence his ability to master the duties incumbent upon one who occupies the honored oriental chair in the East. He sincerely believes that a just decision is one that benefits the fra-

ternity and therefore of value to the individual member. "Doc" succumbed and in 1936 he proposed to Miss Bernice Moran and was accepted by her "for better or worse."

When not busily engaged in Masonic work "Doc" could be found either at his office, on a hunting expedition or on a golf course—not the miniature variety. Miniature putt-putt hurts his golf—the shots are usually too short for penny-ante. Hunting is "Doc's" next best "love." He has always had a desire to kill that Egyptian bird that eats snakes for breakfast.

On one of his hunting trips he ran into a deputy sheriff who was seeking a still hidden away in the wild mountainous region of the High Sierras. This sheriff began telling "Doc" of having been chased by a snake ten feet long and as big around as a five-gallon jug. "Doc" concluded the sheriff had really located the still.

"Doc" was once asked what prompted him to follow the profession of Osteopathy. He smiled, then recalled to mind the times at the ol' swimmin' hole back on the farm. One day in particular he remembered the river was up, and the water muddy. On emerging from the water, minus clothes, a bee without a conscience, stung him somewhere near the gluteous maximus or obturator internus. Immediately he remembered his parents telling him that mud was a sure cure for a bee sting. He grabbed a handful of mud (there was no mixing salt with soda) and the application worked. Then and there he decided should he ever change his mind about becoming a professional baseball player he would be in the "profession" as an Osteopath, and so he is today.

"Doc" enlisted for World War service at Los Angeles, January 28, 1918; served in the Army Air Service; trained at U. of C., Berkeley, March Field. "Doc" says he didn't have the chance to get in on the medals for heroism, but was never A.W.O.L. He has 50 flying hours to his credit, but was discharged before commissioned, and was one of the best "gold bricks on record," according to his statement.

While attending Grand Lodge at San Francisco in October 1930, he made a visit, with 30 others, to San Quentin prison, and fortunately, "Doc" was standing near by when a convict fell from the upper bunk in his cell, dislocating his shoulder—stepping out of bed as it were. Immediately "Doc" came to the rescue—snappo! Just like that—and the "con" crawled back into his "upper" happy that "Doc" was a visitor that day. And speaking of dislocations, etc., here is a secret—he believes that the modern girl of today will never die of a broken heart.

In telling of his fishing trips and plays on the golf course, he says that in the ol' fishing days he used to sit down near the water, after frying the fish, and eat the fish from the tail toward the head, to "bring other fishes' heads toward the shore." And about golf, he believes that there are many courses open to the man who is ambitious, but it usually costs a couple of dollars or so for eighteen holes. "Doc's" indoor sport is bridge, and he always plans for the "cross-over" before he reaches it.

He has lived in Los Angeles since 1910, after having resided in Redlands, California from 1906 to 1909. Prior to his arrival in California he lived in Chagain Falls, Ohio, for two years, where he was in high school; Geanga County, Ohio, claimed him as a native son, and as a resident until he was sixteen years of age. His mother's birthplace was also in Geanga County, Ohio, and his parents are now living at Redlands, California.





"Doc" on the Golf Course with the "Diplo"

There are many past experiences we like to recall to mind; some stand out more prominently than others. We remember "Doc" telling us about the night local option became effective in Chagrin Falls, Ohio. He was one of a "gang" that helped pick up the "drunks" for the delivery cart that hauled them to the town fountain where they were dumped. Like most boys he was always in the "fun."

Jay had other activities, being a member of Los Angeles Commandery No. 9 and Al Malaikah Temple Shrine. He was also a member of the California Country Club, Elks and Duck Club.

Jay Otis Burnett, beloved by all who know him; a man and brother who has so successfully administered over La Brea Lodge the past year; who deserves the praise of the membership for his impartial judgment; his undivided interest in La Brea affairs; his knowledge of things Masonic; his fairness in all dealings; his interest in the individual member. He who has often shown appreciation for his officers' cooperation and the regular attendance and interest of the members, will retire in December, and with him goes the best wishes of La Brea.

In 1944 "Doc" and his good wife, moved to Santa Paula, California, where they had extensive property holdings, and in connection with his osteopathic practice he became interested in a local hospital. "Doc" was prevailed upon by the Santa Paula Masonic Lodge to become its Master, and in 1947 with regrets he demitted to Santa Paula Lodge. "Doc" served Santa Paula Lodge as its Master for five (5) years.

In 1950 "Doc" departed this mortal earth, but his memory lingers on.



#### OFFICERS INSTALLED

The year 1930 was no exception to the fact that La Brea Lodge prided itself on its fine corps of officers and this practice has continued over the years. With our own Worshipful Lee T. Mullen, Inspector, acting as Master of Ceremonies, and William H. Barker, retiring Worshipful Master, as Installing Officer, the prescribed rite was observed by members, their families and friends. The officers elective and appointive of La Brea Lodge No. 650, were duly inducted into offices as follows:

Jay O. Burnett . . . . .	Worshipful Master
William Wallace Wedding . . . . .	Senior Warden
Russell Lawrence Ray . . . . .	Junior Warden
Clyde Curtius Caillet . . . . .	Treasurer
Lloyd Herbert Fruehling . . . . .	Secretary
Jo D'Hart Hurd . . . . .	Chaplain
Zellner Oakes Hart . . . . .	Senior Deacon
Theodore Alwin Heinold . . . . .	Junior Deacon
Charles Fincher Laverty . . . . .	Marshal
Charles Benjamin Goodridge . . . . .	Senior Steward
Walter Lloyd Laumann . . . . .	Junior Steward
Fred Perry Lowe . . . . .	Tiler

The Board of Trustees for the current Masonic year were as follows:

William T. Wheeling, William H. Parcels, Wm. H. Barker.

What was then the largest attendance in the history of La Brea Lodge

was seen at the installation of officers December 17. Worshipful Lee T. Mullen, Inspector, acting as Master of Ceremonies and William H. Barker, retiring Worshipful Master, as Installing Officer, conducted the installation ceremonies. Without Lee Mullen acting as Master of Ceremonies, we are sure that our officers would not be properly inducted into office as his presence inspires confidence and self-reliance on the part of the officers and members.

Bill Wheeling, on behalf of the members, presented a beautiful diamond studded square and compass ring to Bill Barker, retiring Master, and personally presented to him a leather bound volume of the *Diplodocus* embossed in gold. On behalf of Jay Burnett, Bill Barker and Bill Parcels were presented with past Master's aprons. Mesdames Wheeling, Barker and Parcels were each presented a beautiful bouquet of roses.

The following brethren were either elected or raised during this Masonic year, and those with an asterisk before their names were raised:

- \*Francis Bernard Bird
- \*John Ford Hanes ("Ford")
- \*Alvah Warren Ross
- \*Clyde Simons Kier
- Sidney Ward Mims
- \*James Roy Pinkerton (Yellowstone National Park)
- \*Vere Wm. Chas. Cheesman
- William Cornell McColl
- \*Charles Rand ("Charlie")
- \*Edw. Z. Christensen ("Ezzy")
- \*Jamie Logan Robertson
- \*Paul Wesley Whitmore
- Rural Welton Whann (a Patent Attorney)
- Coey Dunkelberger
- Norman Archibald Bennett
- Neville Butler Chalner ("Ned")
- James Herbert Alen ("Jimmie")
- Myers Pershon Butte
- Melville Ernest Rogers
- Vernon Cephas Kent

That La Brea Lodge is still attractive to Master Masons from other lodges is evidenced by the election of the following members by affiliation:

- George Arthur Davies, Sr., Saginaw, Michigan.
- Yancy Ritter Shields, Vermont Square Lodge No. 515, California.
- Ellory Peace Vernon, Highland Park Lodge No. 382, California.
- Theodore Nathaniel Tripp, Pentalpha Lodge No. 202, Los Angeles.
- Elwood Milton Smith, Midway Lodge No. 426, Taft.
- Glenn Fay Phillips, Pentalpha Lodge No. 202, Los Angeles.

The year was not without its sorrows and the following brethren were raised to the sublime degree above:

John Otter, born August 15, 1859, initiated into La Pier Lodge No. 54, of the jurisdiction of Michigan, raised to the supreme degree of fellow craft April 7, 1901, and on April 27, 1901, raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason. On February 3, 1930, he passed to the Great Beyond.

John Henry Wittmaack, born December 20, 1872, initiated on June 25, 1907, into Roseau Lodge No. 268, passed the degrees of fellow craft July 9, 1907 and was raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason July 23, 1907.



On February 19, 1930, he answered the call and passed to the Great Beyond.

Our good friend and brother, Lee T. Mullen, after many years of service to Masonry in general and La Brea Lodge in particular, with many regrets, gave up his inspectorship and henceforth he was affectionately known as Inspector Emeritus. While regretting the loss of Brother Lee, a worthy successor was appointed and chosen in his place in the person of Bill Wheeling, and during his reign as Inspector, many constructive developments took place, both in the lodge and in the district.

The *Diplodocus*, as usual, was headed by C. B. Goodridge as editor. The same high standards were maintained as in preceding years under his editorial guidance and if time and space would permit, we should like to record his many contributions in the official lodge publication as they are masterpieces.

### LA BREA'S "ONE EGYPTIAN NIGHT"

With Brother Rhodes Hervey, Past Grand Master of Masons in California, speaking on the subject, "A Trip Through Egypt," members and their families participated in the most successful event of La Brea's existence on September 2, 1930.

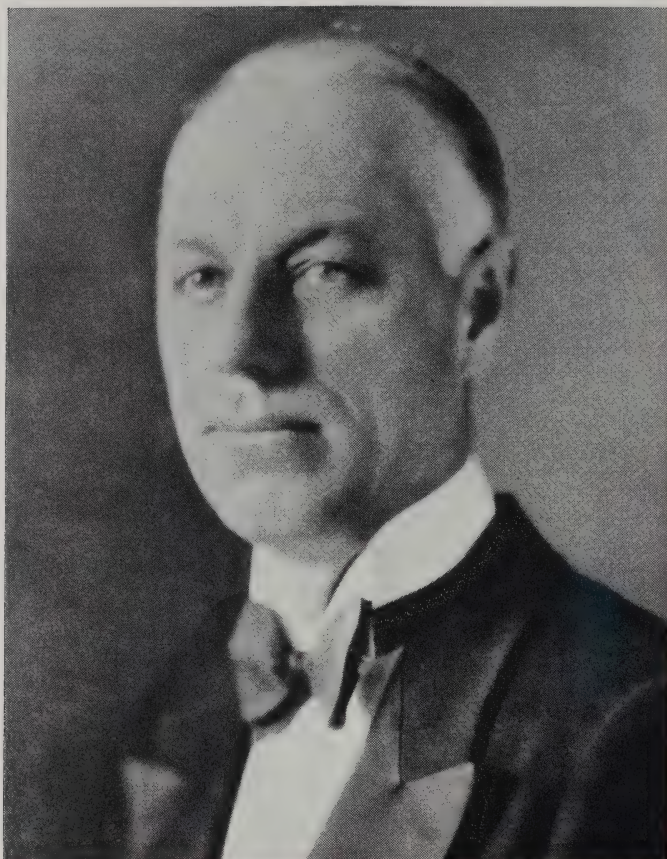
Immediately following the chicken dinner, Brother Hervey, in his usual good form, talked on his experiences in Egypt. During his remarks his audience could not help but feel that they, too, were traveling through this land of mysteries.

Preceding Brother Hervey's talk, our Worshipful Master, Jay Otis Burnett, introduced his guests, Brothers Lee T. Mullen, Inspector Emeritus, Wm. T. Wheeling, Inspector and first Past Master of La Brea, Wm. H. Parcels, Wm. H. Barker, Past Masters, and Walter S. Heaton, P.M. by affiliation, who introduced the speaker.

### ANNUAL MUSTER

Following the ancient custom, the Annual Muster of the Lodge was held November 18, 1930, and while history does not record many of the details in connection therewith, we were able to glean from one of the ancient copies of the *Diplodocus* that a "Rip-snorthing good time was had by all. That's La Brea's Annual Muster—always in all ways bigger and better." It would appear that the brethren were in a jocular mood as they engaged in a whistling contest. The idea of the contest was to see how long you could stand up under a good stiff whistle. After the fifth whistle, if you were still standing, or maybe just leaning a little bit, you were put to an intelligence test. We are still trying to find out what psychologist ever thought up such an intelligence test.

Bill Wedding presented a memorial banner to the lodge in honor of our departed brethren, Anthony Zeuner, Joseph Brown, Arnold Smith, John Otter, Alvah Prey and John Whittmaack. The memorial banner was 4 x 9 feet in size, dark blue felt background, stars and names of members in white. In the center appears our official lodge seal in gold. Around this seal is space for names of departed masters in gold. The banner is edged in gold, the bottom being of gold fringe. This memorial prompts us to recall the many happy hours of friendliness shown by the departed brethren in the days now past. We glory in the knowledge that their days on earth were not in vain. The quality of character which distinguishes them as men and Masons lives on.



WILLIAM WALLACE WEDDING  
Worshipful Master  
1931

## Chapter V

William Wallace Wedding, another "Bill," and a distinguished gentleman from the deep south followed in the illustrious steps of "Bill" Barker, thus making a fourth generation of "Bills."

Bill informs me that he is no "spring chicken," but you would never know it, such is his zeal and effervescent personality.

Bill was born at Rosuer, Kentucky, July 1st, 1882. Bill, ever loyal to the "South," spent his early years in Louisville, Kentucky; Dallas, Texas; Oklahoma City, Oklahoma; but he finally saw daylight and at various times lived in South Dakota, Denver, Colorado, and finally he found his way to Los Angeles, California.

When Bill was about 3 or 4 years of age, and while still wearing long baby dresses, he was standing near a grate fireplace, his dress caught fire and if it had not been for the prompt action he might have been burned to death, and even to this day he carries a scar on his neck.

On another occasion Bill nearly smothered to death as a baby, because he did not cry out for help, but on a second occasion he nearly froze to death because he kicked off his bedding and did not cry out.

Bill, according to our informant, was a good baby and according to Bill, maybe he was too good.

On April 28, 1905, Bill married Jesse Ozia and some time after her death, which as I recall was in 1950, he married his present wife, Mrs. Bess Hopkins on June 30th, 1952.

While Bill was living in South Dakota, he had a cabin on a large lake, where he could follow his fishing and duck hunting pursuits, and one weekend he filled his lamps with what he thought was coal oil, and to his horror the next morning he found that he had used gasoline instead. Bill invited some of his friends to enjoy his cabin hospitality, and they were chased around the inside of the cabin by a rattlesnake who objected to their presence. Outside of this annoyance, a good time was had by all.

Bill has had many activities as shown by the following pursuits: Cashier of a bank, clothing salesman, oil leasing, bought and sold leases, a traveling specialty man for Swift & Co., security salesman (stock) and a real estate broker.

La Brea Lodge has always been very fortunate in its elective and appointive officers and the year 1931 was no exception. Many trying problems and tribulations were then facing the nation economically, and wise guidance was required to steer the lodge through this trying period.

With Jay Otis Burnett, junior past master, as installing officer and William T. Wheeling, Worshipful Inspector, acting as Master of Ceremonies, officers for the ensuing Masonic year were duly installed in their respective offices on the evening of December 23.



## OFFICERS INSTALLED

We find that the following brethren were elected and installed as officers for the current year:

William Wallace Wedding . . . . .	Worshipful Master
Russell Lawrence Ray . . . . .	Senior Warden
Zellner Oakes Hart . . . . .	Junior Warden
Clyde Curtius Caillet . . . . .	Treasurer
Lloyd H. Fruehling . . . . .	Secretary
Charles Fincher Laverty . . . . .	Chaplain
Theodore Alwin Heinold . . . . .	Senior Deacon
Charles Benjamin Goodridge . . . . .	Junior Deacon
David Maurice Evans . . . . .	Marshal
Walter Lloyd Laumann . . . . .	Senior Steward
Jo D'Hart Hurd . . . . .	Junior Steward
Fred P. Lowe . . . . .	Tiler

Jay Otis Burnett, retiring Master, was presented with a beautiful diamond studded square and compass ring on behalf of the members, and likewise was the recipient of a bound volume of the *Diplodocus* covering the year of his administration, presented by Brother Wheeling from the officers.

Brother Jay, being welcomed into the inner circle of Past Masters by William H. Barker, was presented with a Past Master's apron. In the words of Cee Bee Gee, the services of Brother Jay were expressed in part as follows:

Say not goodbye, but au revoir  
To us you have called your crew  
The future years are apt to bring  
Fond memories to you.

Your good words as you leave us  
Seem to strengthen weakened strings  
Of our hearts warm for you Jay O  
We feel them ting-ling.

Words fail us as the parting  
Brings forth a saddened smile  
For we are sorry that you are leaving  
Though we are glad you made the mile.

The board of trustees for the lodge were as follows: William H. Parcels, William H. Barker, Jay O. Burnett.

Continuing the high standards of membership, the following brethren were either elected or raised during the current year:

\*Eugene Adolph Tompkins  
\*Emil Henry Koehl  
\*Eugene Fields Weisel  
\*Norman Archibald Bennett  
\*Neville Butler Challoner  
\*Gilbert Haven Bishop  
\*Vernon Cephas Kent  
\*Melville Ernest Rogers  
\*Coe Dunklberger

\*Myers Person Butte  
\*James Herbert Alen  
\*Harold Smith Wakefield  
\*Glenn Guy Marshall  
\*Burris Milo Mitchell  
Adolph Frederick Kneubel  
\*James Gillies McCorry  
\*Alva Willard Fishburn  
Charles Albert Bailey  
(Asterisk indicates raising)

The *Diplodocus* showed the evidence of its continuous growth and importance under the editorship of C. B. Goodridge, and his loyal assistant for many years, V. Kenneth Shimer took up the pen as editor, but he did so realizing that the burden would fall principally upon his shoulders.

An unusual honor and the only one of its character ever conferred upon a member of La Brea Lodge was bestowed upon A. S. Allen, who for many years served as chairman of the coaching committee, when he was presented by Jay Otis Burnett on behalf of the officers and Past Masters, with a gold card on which was engraved words of recognition and an expression of appreciation for the constant and generous work he had performed in coaching the candidates of La Brea Lodge since its inception. His able assistants during all of these years were headed by Jimmy Mann, Jerome Lindsay and Russ Collings.

Adding to the woes of the nation, the so-called Dust Bowl area called on the nation for aid to its starving people and included in the large quota of foods furnished by the Los Angeles area were contributions by members of La Brea Lodge.

Cee Bee Gee expressed for all of us what it means to be a Mason in the following age-old advice:

Just grasp the hand of your brother,  
Whether he's here from north or south.  
He may recall old scenes that seem like dreams;  
He may be down in the mouth.

He may be one without money,  
May envy the luck some have had.  
Why not bestow some praise in these glorious days;  
Your grip will make him glad.

If a brother you happen to meet here  
Goes broke and is out of a job,  
Would you worry or fret, hold back your regret,  
And pity—and sigh—and sob?

If the hope-chest he may be planning  
Should make a most terrible bust.  
Why tear out your hair, in a burst of despair?  
Why even get nettled or fussed?

Life is so full of great sorrows;  
We may be unlucky for years.  
But hope for the best, and give to the rest  
Three ringing, echoing cheers!

If we all have faith in our purpose,  
And success is with us awhile;  
Some friend that we had will surely be glad,  
And welcome the news with a smile.

So make up your mind to smile with him,  
Be happy and glad you're alive;  
It might gratify you, if you only knew  
It's advice from a man, seventy-five!

Notwithstanding the trying conditions, La Brea's Annual Muster was duly held but without the presence of John Samuel Holmes, a member of the lodge, and owner of the lodge building. Brother John was born December 16, 1869, initiated May 20, 1914, passed June 3, 1914, raised on August 15, 1914, and was called to the Supreme Lodge above by the Grand Master of the Universe September 13, 1931.

During the year Martin L. Thomas, a member of the lodge, was appointed by John Porter, Mayor of the City of Los Angeles, as Chief Investigator of the city prosecutor's office.



### ANNUAL MUSTER

La Brea celebrated its Annual Muster ceremonies on the evening of November 24, 1931, and what a wonderful party we did have. If the skippers of our lodge realized what a significant part our Muster has in the Masonic life of its members, there would never arise any sufficient reason for its cancellation. These annual, all member (if at all possible) parties present an opportunity for the renewal of Friendship, Brotherly Love and a further cementing of the "ties that bind." To me, the calling of the roll of our departed brethren who have passed on in the faith, and gone to prepare a place for us in the Celestial Lodge on high, is particularly affecting and furnishes a subject for serious reflecting. About one hundred and twenty of La Brea's members responded to the calling of their names, and this fine attendance was an inspiration for us all. Interesting talks were given by Bro. Lee Mullen, Inspector, 77th Masonic District, our own Bill Wheeling, Inspector of the 85th Masonic District, and by Past Masters Parcels, Barker and Burnett.



The passing of years many expressions have developed pertaining to those who seek membership in the craft and who are subsequently elected, passed and raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason. I know of no better expression than the following simple words:

"Only those who are worthy can enter—  
Can know the aim of the craft,  
And the nearness of God.

Only those proficient can pass  
Over Temple tapestry, through pillars,  
And arrive at a place long sought.

Only those of good repute are raised  
From the valley of hidden mysteries,  
Into sun-lit gardens of righteousness."

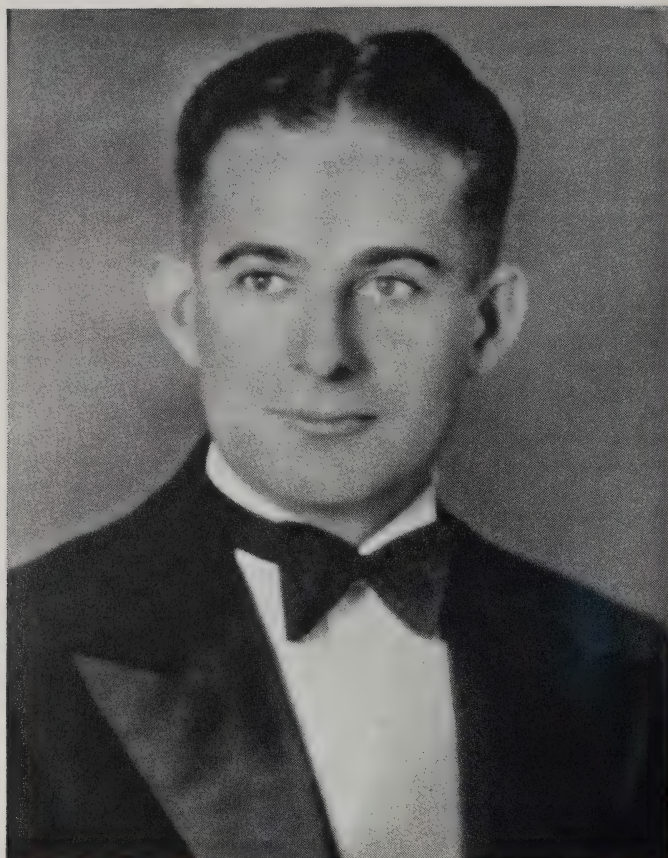


The comradeship, which has always been an outstanding feature of La Brea Lodge since its inception, was no exception during the current year. It has sometimes been expressed:

La Brea Lodge:  
Where brotherly love abounds,  
Friendships lasting.  
Within your four walls  
Are Green Acacia groves;  
Knowledge to gain;  
Feeding everlasting pools of thought.

Think back at youth so gay,  
You had not a yesterday.  
Today? A useful life doth sway  
You through the years of play.  
Tomorrow? Ye gods, let's make it far away;  
Live now, for right is might, I'll say!  
I am a Mason;  
Raised this midsummer afternoon.

I go forth into the world  
Seeing myself  
In shadows of Acacia trees.  
My heart  
Light and joyous,  
Rejoices too,  
All the while  
My soul bleats a little refrain,  
"Time, time,  
That drifts away so soon."



RUSSELL LAWRENCE RAY  
Worshipful Master  
1932

## Chapter VI

Russell (Russ) L. Ray, the youngest man ever to be installed Worshipful Master of La Brea Masonic Lodge until Hugh N. Cameron was installed as Master in 1953, while he did not have the physical stature of his predecessors in the oriental chair, was tall enough to at all times frown upon any action contradictory to Masonic teachings, and by his precept and example, was enabled to lead his brethren in safety along the rough and rugged road of life's Masonic highway.

It has been as hard as trying to extract teeth from a chicken (the feathered variety, anyway) to secure the life history of Russ (maybe at that he is smart) except that we learn Russ was born in Wichita, Kansas, on December 2, 1896. In 1906, during the infancy of automobiles, Russ and his family toured through the Eastern part of the United States by automobile. In 1910, Russ ran a hedge thorn through his right eye. In 1915, Russ raced at county fairs, and owned a part interest in a racing car that held, for a period, the fastest time in Kansas racing circles. On August 1, 1931, Russ married Christine Addison, a school teacher, and they have been blessed by two fine children, Russell Lawrence Ray, Jr. (presently a student in Occidental College), and Christine Addison Ray, Jr. (this is a new one on me, affixing a Jr. after a girl's name, but this is the way Russ wrote it and so it shall be). It is too soon to expect grandchildren from this family.

In World War No. I, Russ, after being turned down by the Navy on account of one eye, was then classified I-A by the Army and he received his induction notice to report. This turned out to be an error, as he was one over the quota required. His second call was cancelled because of influenza in the Army camp. (So help me, George W. Burch, Jr., claims that he was the first man in the Army to have had the flu, and in those days it was sometimes referred to as the "black plague," and those in the Army were required to wear "flu masks.") Russ's third call was to report for induction in the Army on November 11, 1918, Armistice Day.

Russ has been a top flight salesman since he was 20 years of age, and has occupied positions of trust. Russ was made a Master Mason in 1919 in Ivanhoe Masonic Lodge No. 446, State of Missouri.

Russ, as is true of most Masters, progressively advanced through the various stations in La Brea Lodge, and was elected and installed as Worshipful Master in 1932.

### INSTALLATION

With W. W. Wedding, Junior Past Master, as Installing Officer, and William T. Wheeling, Worshipful Inspector, acting as Master of Ceremonies, officers for the ensuing Masonic Year were duly installed in their respective offices on Monday, December 14th, 1931. Although the weather was inclement, more than one hundred of the brethren and their friends attended.



We find that the following brethren were elected and installed as officers for the current year:

Russell L. Ray . . . . .	Worshipful Master
Zellner O. Hart . . . . .	Senior Warden
Ted A. Heinold . . . . .	Junior Warden
Ed J. Meister . . . . .	Treasurer
Lloyd H. Fruehling . . . . .	Secretary
David M. Evans . . . . .	Chaplain
C. B. Goodridge . . . . .	Senior Deacon
W. Lloyd Laumann . . . . .	Junior Deacon
Jo D'Hart Hurd . . . . .	Senior Steward
Charles F. Laverty . . . . .	Junior Steward
W. J. Harvey . . . . .	Marshal
Clarence V. Knoth . . . . .	Tiler

The Board of Trustees comprised of Wm. H. Barker, Chairman, Jay O. Burnett and Wm. W. Wedding.

William Wallace Wedding, retiring Master, was presented with a magnificently jeweled Past Master's ring on behalf of the members, and Russell L. Ray was presented with a gavel of his exalted station by the officers.

The following brethren were either elected or raised (those with an asterisk before their names were raised) during the current year:

- \*Maurer, Theodore R.
- \*Mvers, Clarence E.
- \*Bailey, Charles A.
- \*Burris M. Mitchell
- \*Kneubel, Adolph F.

The following Brother was elected by affiliation:  
Swank, John W.

Vesta Wheeling, the wife of Bill Wheeling, the only woman who ever contributed an article to the *Diplodocus*, had such a great interest in the Craft that she wrote an inspirational article under the by-line, "Masonry as seen through the eyes of a member of the Feminine," and I feel that this article should, in part at least, form a part of our permanent Lodge History and accordingly, a part of it is herewith recorded:

"One can readily see that I know nothing whatever of the symbolism of Masonry. I do not profess to know a great deal about it now. However, whenever I attend an installation now, I listen seriously to the charges as given to each officer by the Worshipful Master, each time absorbing more of their beauty and depth. How much good it must do any man to even try to live up to them.

"Then Bill started as a baby officer and I did some coaching out of the little blue Monitor and so found out for the first time that it was permissible to read anything printed about Masonry. When we came to four or five \* \* \* \* \*, of course, I wanted to know what these stood for, and was informed that they represented the secret part. In coaching him in his lectures as he passed through his old lodge—Mizpah No. 378—chairs to become its Worshipful Master, and again as Master of La Brea Lodge, and later when he aspired to have the ritual letter perfect before passing the test of a newly appointed inspector, I have secretly had a little thrill each time we came to those \* \* \* \* \*, hoping he would forget himself, but he never has.

"I feel sure the wives and friends of the members of La Brea Lodge have admired the beautiful jewels worn by the officers during the installation ceremonies. Admired them because they are artistically designed, beautifully wrought, and lovingly presented in memory of a departed brother. I feel equally sure that those wives will look at these jewels with new admiration and respect if they take the little blue Monitor and read with understanding what each jewel symbolizes." I feel that we, as Masons, have profited from this well written message of Vesta Wheeling.

Russ came up with the thought that interest in the lodge could be increased by having two Competitive Degree teams, and accordingly he appointed "Dave" Evans as Captain of team No. 1 and C. B. Goodridge as Captain of team No. 2. These teams evidently were too successful, because before very long everyone in the lodge, at least the workers, became so proficient in the floor work, that it was no longer necessary to have Degree teams. It is my recollection that a gold cup was contributed, with the thought in mind that it should be presented to the best Degree team, but both teams were winners.

A bridge tournament was undertaken and among the card sharks who participated were Jo Hurd, Bill Jones, Ed Meister, George W. Burch, Jr., Sam Haver and Hugh J. Cameron, and how these names bring back memories. It is my recollection that Bill Jones became so enthused over the tournament that he took up his trusty quill and recorded the activities of the "Sharks" in these words: "Up, starched and to the Masonry, where did I pastime at the bridge, with others of the elk. Did chortle mightily at the sad efforts of Brothers Burch and Rand to overcome myself and Watson, and the enemy did wax wrathly and heave out upon us with ponderous anathema, and by my scimitar, we were sore distressed and but saved by the summons to fish and chitlins, through the welcome jabbering of Jo the Hurd, no unusual dubbit at the play."

The golf players, not to be outdone by the "card sharks," organized a golf tournament, Brothers Heintzelman and Dr. Burnett being the captains of the respective teams, and in order to insure honesty in the score departments, Brothers Ed Meister and Wendell J. Harvey graded the players as to handicaps. The only thing missing was that no one was appointed to grade the handicappers.

The year was not without its sorrows. Abe Allen, who as head coach had given so much of himself to the lodge, died at the Cedars of Lebanon Hospital, July 28th, and was buried under the auspices of La Brea Lodge. It has been said: "Truly, we understand death for the first time when he puts his hand on one whom we love." With every assurance of profound reverence, it may be truthfully said that Brother Allen was faithful unto death. His devotion to the teachings of the Craft, coupled with a beautiful earnestness of purpose, an untiring patience, a kindly sympathetic manner and an unerring attention to ritualistic detail, may well serve as a guidon for those to whom "with failing hand I fling the torch."

Politics, national and local, were very active, and not to be outdone by amateurs in the field, the Past Masters caused to be issued, an epistle which would have done credit to a barker in the side show, an election to end all elections, and a wind to end all winds. By special permission, we reprint this broadside and the Past Masters' contribution to good government.

## THE BIG NIGHT FOR P.M.'S AND 1933

### (PROSPECTIVE) OFFICERS!

It is election year.

Be on hand to witness two stupendous attractions.

The decision of the Electoral College

AND The Big Debate of the year.

TIME: TUESDAY, OCTOBER 18, 7:30 P.M.

#### ASPIRANTS

Z. O. Hart  
Ted Heinold  
C. B. Goodridge  
Lloyd Laumann  
Jo Hurd  
Dave Evans  
Wendell Harvey  
Welton Whann  
Bob Robertson

President  
Vice-President  
Sec. of State  
Sec. of Treasury  
Sec. of War  
Atty.-General  
Postmaster-General  
Sec. of Navy  
Sec. of Interior

#### OLD WAR HORSES

Bill Wheeling  
Bill Parcels  
Bill Barker  
Jay Burnett  
Bill Wedding  
Walter Heaton  
Ken Erwin  
T. N. Tripp  
Lyle Pope

CAMPAIGN MANAGERS: Jas. Sine, Chas. Rand, Al Fishburn, Tony Hook-  
anson, Vernon Kent, Geo. Davies and Hearst Ross.

PRECINCT JUDGE: Russ Ray.

INSPECTOR: Lloyd Fruehling.

CLERKS: Ed Meister and Sam Haver.

SUPREME COURT: Emil Koehl, Harry Harper, Ed Gallandet, James Mc-  
Cory.

The Grand Finale of the work of the Degree Team will be a competitive Third Degree between the officers of the lodge on one side and the Past Masters on the other.

This will be good. Maybe later there will be Hi-Jinks in the Banquet Room where we shall hear the Big Debate. It will be both serious and fun.

DEBATERS: Bros. Geo. Burch and Adolph Koebig.

Everyone enjoyed a wonderful evening, and while no one may have won the debate, yet, no one was killed, and those present profited, and the regular officers conferred the third degree on one candidate and the Past Masters conferred the third degree on a different candidate.

C. B. Goodridge was so inspired with verse, and as a reminder of our Annual Muster in part proclaimed:

"Don't forget our Annual Muster,  
For it's going to be a wow,  
We will have turkey with all the fixin's,  
Yes, yes, yum and how!

Past Masters dealing 'em off the arm,  
And jolting the air with a pass,  
Stewards crashing off half-backs,  
With mits full of applesass.

And it's just that Masonic Tie Brethren,  
That we must remember all,  
So crash the gate at our Muster Dinner,  
Come and help us 'boot the ball.' "



## OUR ANNUAL MUSTER TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 14

There was a surprisingly large turnout at our Muster on Tuesday, November 15. About eighty-eight, I believe, were seated at the banquet table, and perhaps twenty more were post dinner arrivals. A large birthday cake was the center of attraction. Its size was about three feet long by probably one and one-half feet wide. This cake, an exquisite piece of pastry art, was an exact replica of the cover page of the *Diplodocus*, and excited the admiration of every member. John Stewart Ross, P.G.M. of California Masons, spoke all too briefly on some Masonic facts and experiences that were interesting. Dr. Sam Burke, P.G.M., delivered one of his fine talks and mentioned La Brea Lodge was very fortunate in having a comparatively small membership, where good, solid and lasting friendships are formed, and where each member calls his brother by his first name.

### WORLD WAR NO. I

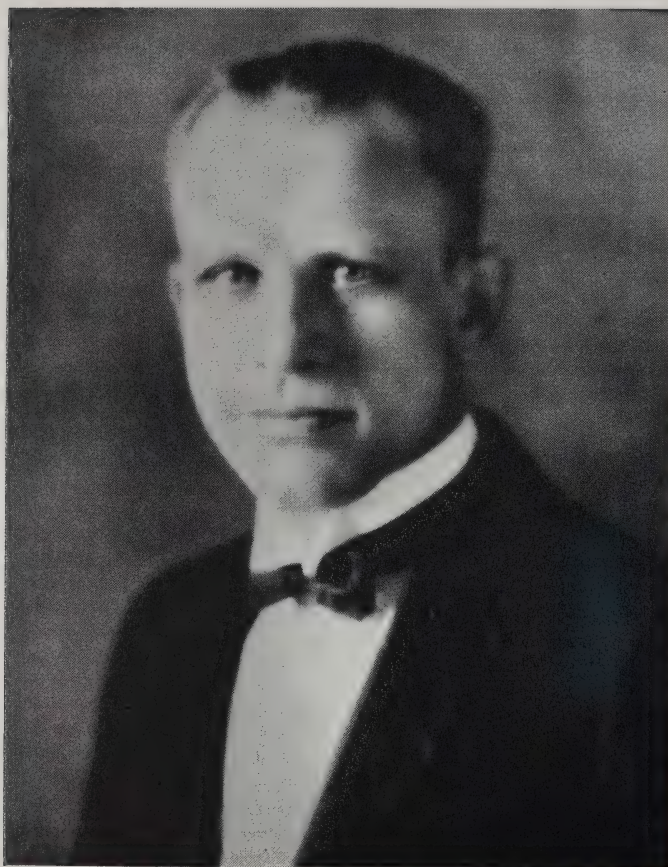
Yes, we know that this is not a proper place to mention those who were members of the armed forces in World War No. I, for by 1932 this war, which was supposed to be the war to "End all Wars," in the minds of all, to many people was but a memory, but in the lives of those who returned and those who gave their lives, it was a memory which would never be forgotten. No record has been kept or maintained concerning the names of those who saw service in this "Conflagration," and hence the writer has had to draw on his memory as to those names he was able to recollect as having served, and as to those whose names are not mentioned, apologies are extended:

William H. Parcels  
David M. Evans  
John W. Swank  
George W. Burch, Jr.  
Wendell J. Harvey  
T. A. Heinold  
William Foster Wilson  
Charles F. Laverty  
Charles D. Bayles  
Ed G. Huefe  
Harold W. Wakefield  
Isador R. Allen  
Arthur Barck  
Heber John Bishop  
Jay Otis Burnett  
Clyde C. Caillet

Willys O. Gregory  
Julius Schmidt  
Kenneth F. Ervin  
E. Estes Evans  
Joseph Howard Engoman  
Morris M. Guthrie  
Samuel C. Haver, Jr.  
Archa E. Hoffman  
Fred P. Lowe  
Wm. Mellenthin  
Albert M. Phelan  
Walter T. Plummer  
Lloyd W. Robinson, Jr.  
Ben C. Sherwood  
James A. Sine  
Martin Luther Thomas



Our Holy Bible, suitably embossed in gold, was donated by our own "Russ" Ray, P.M.; a book on symbolic Masonry was presented by "Bill" Wheeling, P.M.; the metal container for our Charter by Horace Barton; the loud speaker and accessories by Hal Hall.



ZELLNER OAKES HART  
Worshipful Master  
1933

## Chapter VII

Zellner O. Hart, the first banker to occupy the Oriental Chair in the East, Ben Perry being the second of the two bankers to be so honored, was called upon to head the lodge during a trying and difficult period, but banking experience stood him in good stead.

It is with considerable regret that we find it necessary to go to press without the biography of Zellner, but due to circumstances beyond our control, we are compelled to go ahead anyway.

Zellner, as one of the charter members of the Lodge, served the Lodge well and faithfully from the outset. Besides Zellner, history records the fact that of the other charter members, William T. Wheeling, Bill Parcels, Russell L. Roy, Bill Wedding and Jay O. Burnett, six in all, served La Brea as Master, and four of these Past Masters are still living, only Zellner and Jay being no longer with us.

As we recall, at the time the "Old Cracker Box Gang" were thinking about how wonderful it would be to have a new Masonic Lodge at Wilshire and La Brea Avenue. Zellner was the manager of the Security-First National Bank Branch which also was located at Wilshire and La Brea Ave., in fact Zellner opened this branch. Zellner subsequently became a Bank Manager for the Merchants National Trust and Savings Bank, which last mentioned bank was subsequently merged with the Bank of Italy, and the Bank of Italy subsequently changed its name to the Bank of America. For many years Zellner was manager of the Bank of America Branch at Wilshire and La Brea Avenue, and it is interesting to note in passing, that not only did La Brea have its opening bank account with this branch but to this day we still maintain our Lodge bank account with this branch.

Zellner performed many kindly acts to his brother Masons, and many is the time that he extended a helping hand, but for which the lot of many would have indeed been rough and rugged.

Zellner, as is true of each and every member who served La Brea as its Master, was married, his wife being Pauline Hart. We never have had a bachelor Master; whether this is good or bad we do not know, but future ages may provide such a "critter."

We find that the following brethren were elected and installed as officers for the current year:

Zellner O. Hart . . . . .	Worshipful Master
Ted A. Heinold . . . . .	Senior Warden
C. B. Goodridge . . . . .	Junior Warden
Ed J. Meister . . . . .	Treasurer
Lloyd H. Fruehling . . . . .	Secretary
R. W. Whann . . . . .	Chaplain
W. Lloyd Laumann . . . . .	Senior Deacon
Jo D'Hart Hurd . . . . .	Junior Deacon
David M. Evans . . . . .	Senior Steward
W. J. Harvey . . . . .	Junior Steward
George F. Meitner . . . . .	Tiler



The Board of Trustees was comprised of Jay O. Burnett, Chairman, Wm. W. Wedding and Russell L. Ray.

The installation ceremonies due to the untimely death of Sam T. Haver Jr. who had been appointed as Marshal for the ensuing Masonic year, and which was occasioned by his untimely death at the hands of an assassin, was postponed from Tuesday, December 13th to Tuesday, December 20th, 1932, was very well attended. The Marshal's chair was draped with a mourning wreath, and added an ineffably sad note that seemed to dominate our members. The regular installation ceremonial was carried out with inspiration, Bill Wheeling acted as Master of Ceremonies and Junior Past Master, Russell L. Ray as installing officer. At the proper time in the ceremonies, Lloyd Fruehling, on behalf of all of the members of La Brea Lodge, presented retiring Worshipful Master Russell Ray with a magnificent Past Master's jeweled Masonic ring. Brother Ray responded in his usual happy style.

Out of respect for brother Major Sam T. Haver Jr., the station of Marshal was not filled until the July stated meeting, and at which time George F. Meitner was advanced from the station of Tiler to Marshal and Walter ("Bob") Ellis Robertson, was appointed Tiler.

Brother Sam, who in civilian life was Personnel Manager of the Southern California Edison Company, was murdered by a former employee of the Southern California Edison Company, whom Sam was befriending. We were in the midst of the greatest depression that ever struck the United States, and great was the worry of millions of people, and while it will not restore Sam to us, yet his assailant was indeed distraught.

Purely through inadvertance we have previously failed to give honor when due, by pointing out that following the resignation of C. B. Goodridge as Editor of the *Diplodocus* in 1934 he was first succeeded by V. Kenneth Shimmer, better known as "Shimie," who in turn gave up the Editor's mantle to Oliver Bourke. These three brethren gave a great deal of both time and effort to make the *Diplodocus* the success that it is today.

These were the days when the brethren enjoyed dancing, and the custom of annual dances was continued with a Valentine Party Dance and how father time has taken its toll of some if not all of us "old duffers," and this may even be time of some of the young "sprouts," for in recent years, no mention is made of a dance.



Said a certain Master recently:

"Gosh all hemlock, things are tough,  
Seems petitions getting scarcer, we cannot find enough,  
What's become of the many is a mystery to me,  
There were plenty through prosperity, but now where can they be?  
A whole year passed, and let me say times were getting bad.  
No petitions, applications, no business to be had,  
Then again, determination set them working hard, and say  
They finally slipped it over one fine sunshiny day.  
Now business is much better, petitions coming in;  
And the 'timber' is as plentiful though pocketbooks are thin  
That is, their incomes are reduced as like are yours and mine,  
Though these men are just as worthy as in a better time.

Speaking of candidates, we hasten to add that the following were elected and those with an asterisk before their names were raised during the current year:

\*Ruppe, Donald E.

\*Austin, Edward C.

Bayles, Charles D.

In passing we note that the *Diplodocus*, during this year, records the fact that La Brea Lodge to date, has been honored, by having on its membership roll, six Past Masters by affiliation from other lodges; first of course is our first Master Wm. T. Wheeling, Benjamin A. Burton, Roy C. Burton (the Burtons are brothers), Albert L. Wilson, Harry S. Harper, Walter St. Clair Heaton and their wise counsel stood the new lodge in good stead over the years.

The *Diplodocus*, during the year, in one of its issues, coined an interesting article, entitled "Lest We Forget," and we quote from it in part as follows:

"That our first coaching committee was composed of William (Bill to you) Barker, as chairman, with Phillip Kalech, Zellner Hart, A. B. (Bruce to you) Leonard, A. G. (Tony, of course) Hookanson and C. B. Goodridge, assisting—when James (Jim to you) McClud Johnson was chairman of the music committee (P.S. Frank Burgan, even before you were Master, the Brethren had music in their souls, or some did anyway) and Ted Heinold chairman of the reception committee—and is it necessary to mention the first Editor of the *Di-plod-o-cus*? No!

The first edition of the official bulletin of La Brea Lodge was April 1927. Note: and in fact over the years, we have had only two publishers, first it was Jo, and then Ray S. Smith (sometimes known as "Selvester").

## OUR ANNUAL MUSTER

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 1933

Right up to the hour of assembly many of us feared for the success of our Annual Muster this year, and it is true that there was sufficient reason for such fear; but our boys came home from the wars for this occasion, one hundred and ten of them. Yes, some of them may have shown the honorable scars of the bitter battle of commercial depression; perhaps wounded and dismayed but not beaten and still standing unafraid on the firing line—like that great Mason of early years, who offered his life at the expense of his Masonic faith, turned on his persecutors with the explanation: "Dark is the night, black as the pit from pole to pole, yet I thank all the Gods there be for my unquenchable soul." Yes, our boys came home and nothing further was necessary, our happiness was complete. The roll call of deceased members, always a beautiful and affecting tribute, was the first order of business, and later all lodge brothers present arose and answered to their names. Letters and telegrams were read from other unavoidably absent. Oh! Yes, we had a fine dinner and interesting talks by our distinguished guests, P. G. M. John Stuart Ross; our good friend, Bro. Lee Mullen and old reliable Inspector Bill Wheeling, with shorter addresses by our own lodge officers.

Zellner O. Hart was our first Past Master to leave this Mortal World, being called to the great beyond in 1939.



THEODORE ALWIN HEINOLD  
Worshipful Master  
1934



## Chapter VIII

La Brea Lodge in its entire history never had a more kindly and charitable Master than it had in Theodore (Ted) A. Heinold. His kindness was only exceeded by his generosity, and he, like all other Masters of La Brea Lodge, gave freely of himself to the end that the Lodge might prosper and continue to be known as the lodge with "a friendly smile and hand clasp."

Ted was born December 30, 1894, in New Haven, Connecticut. He attended school and business college there and finally, in 1915, he "headed west." His new home was Pasadena, California. During this time, as we all know, World War I was all important and in March, 1917, he enlisted and was called to service July 1st.

On November 14, 1917, he was married to Grace Bell Whedon and on the 14th of December of the same year, he was shipped to New York via the Panama Canal. He and his ship, Great Northern Pacific, made nine round trips between New York and Brest, France, and he was discharged January, 1919, as Chief Gunner's Mate.

While in New York, his Godfather, Theodore Robert Heinold, gave him his initiation into the Masonic Order. He took his first degree at Forest Hills Lodge, Newark, N. J., and after coming to California, the 2nd and 3rd at Los Angeles Lodge 42. When La Brea was organized, he was in the first class to receive the work by the newly formed lodge.

Ted was employed by Harry A. Miller, Inc., for seventeen years as Secretary-Treasurer. They were builders of racing cars and marine motors.

There were three daughters born to this marriage, Joyce Ann, and twins, Norma Jean and Gloria Grace.

Nineteen hundred and thirty-four was one of Ted's biggest years—he became Master of his Lodge. This, the culmination of years of service, was something he felt deeply. He truly tried to live in accordance with his teachings.

In 1941, he went into business for himself and in 1949, he sold his interests. In 1951, tiring of "time on his hands," he went to work for Don W. Snyder Distributing Co., as Warehouse Manager, where he remained until the time of his death.

The day of his confirmation in the German Lutheran Church in New Haven, Connecticut, his Godfather presented him with a Derby hat which, at that time, was very popular. On the way home from church, a fire wagon, dashing madly by, forced all heads out the window to see the excitement and when he sat down, it was on the hat. His father then took the hat and threw it out the window. His Godfather, needless to say, was also crushed by this action. Many years, and laughs, later, all was forgiven, when it was "Godfather" who initiated Ted into Masonry.

In 1939, Ted was Associate Guardian of Job's Daughters Bethel 125, and in this capacity he served for three years. This was doubly satisfying, because it united the daughters with their La Brea fathers. He was also a 32° Mason and a member of the Shrine Patrol.

## EIGHTH ANNUAL INSTALLATION

On the evening of December 19, 1933, the eighth annual installation ceremonies of La Brea Lodge occurred with one of the best attendance records since its inception. Bill Wheeling acted as Master of Ceremonies and Junior Past Master Zellner O. Hart as Installing officer. Lloyd H. Fruehling, Secretary, presented on behalf of the membership, a Past Master's Jewel, a beautiful wrist watch, to the retiring Master, and in his usual effective style made the presentation speech just as the members would wish it.

The following brethren were elected and installed as officers for the Masonic year of 1934:

Ted A. Heinold . . . . .	Worshipful Master
C. B. Goodridge . . . . .	Senior Warden
W. Lloyd Laumann . . . . .	Junior Warden
Ed J. Meister . . . . .	Treasurer
Lloyd H. Fruehling . . . . .	Secretary
John Swank . . . . .	Chaplain
Jo D'Hart Hurd . . . . .	Senior Deacon
David M. Evans . . . . .	Junior Deacon
W. J. Harvey . . . . .	Marshal
George F. Meitner . . . . .	Senior Steward
George Davies, Jr. . . . .	Junior Steward
Mark Beauchamp . . . . .	Tiler

The new Board of Trustees for the current year was composed of Wm. W. Wedding, Chairman, Russell L. Ray and Zellner O. Hart.

During the year the following were elected and those with an asterisk before their names were raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason:

- \*Hall, William P.
- Kneifel, Merritt P.
- Walrod, Fred E.
- \*Ross, Robert S.
- \*Bayles, Charles D.

With this year, we find John W. Swank was installed as Chaplain, and in thinking of John I like to recall a prayer which he gave on a number of occasions and which as I recall in part at least, went something like this:

"Dear Lord, keep me from the littleness and meanness of ingratitude. Give me a heart full of thanksgiving and praise to Thee and overflowing with love for my fellow man and appreciation of his efforts and struggles.

"May I never bear tales of evil or weakness of other people. If I watch my mistakes I shall be in a far better business. I can better aid others by calling attention to their strong points. May I help to build another's reputation rather than to seek by word or act to tear it down.

"Keep me this day free from the evil of selfishness, of all sin. Selfishness is the most heinous and diabolical. Selfishness carried to the extreme will make a person capable of the blackest crime. May I seek to lose selfishness in an all-inspiring and all-pervading altruism. May my thought be for others, not self.

"May we never be tempted to turn back nor even hesitate and falter because the road before us seems to be steep. The uphill road is the road to God and if we keep on climbing we shall finally reach the crest and with it, rest and peace.

"It is my daily prayer that I may be a good loser and a good winner in

the moral affairs of life. May I not be cast down when all goes wrong and my soul is troubled, and may I not be elated unduly when success comes and all is well. May I keep my poise and self-possession through it all.

"Heavenly Father, give me persistence to finish the task I began. May my zeal be quickened and courage renewed. May I continue to perform faithfully my work until the task is done."

This prayer, is the most beautiful expression of a Mason's Creed and of the lessons taught by the "Golden Rule" and we can with profit follow the precepts of this prayer in our daily living. In the case of John, I can without hesitation state that he indeed has lived the teachings of this prayer in his daily conduct with his fellow man.

A Cub Reporter for the Di-Plod-O-Cus, lets us in on some Walter Winchell news item and I am informed:

Ralph Bandini has promised to appear before us in the near future with another one of his interesting talks. We'll be seein' you, Ralph.

Jimmy Mann was asked recently by Jerry Lindsay about his regular attendance so soon after his marriage, and he replied that he was a "FREE-mason"—not just a "Mason"; and that his wife was that agreeable.

Hugh Cameron (Sr. to you) was one of the unfortunate ones in Glendale during the recent heavy rains and flood. His home was damaged considerable. Our sympathy, Hugh.

Lloyd Fruehling laid another egg on Tuesday night recently. Wasn't that ducky?

Ken Ervan continues to be one of the faithful.

Charles Rand, the most optimistic fellow we have ever met.

Harold Wakefield, Manager, Adohr Creamery, reports—buttermilk.

Welton Whann traveled east to Washington, D. C., last month on business—seems he had some patents pending or something.

When Bill Parcels remains on his feet so long (or shall we say, cramps his toes so many times) and manages to say a word about George Davies Jr. being a "boy orator," the sails must be set correctly and somebody's "wind jammer" must be sailing in the right direction.

Doc Barck running a new beauty parlor says it's fascinating.

Several of our members are soon going to make their annual visit.

Phil Kalech is now the western representative of the Palm-Olive-Peet Company. Russell Ray is also their representative in the territory between Los Angeles and San Luis Obispo, and is Russ happy?

### ANNUAL MUSTER

The oracles failed to record what transpired at the Annual Muster, held on November 20th, and in fact I had to do considerable research to establish the facts one was held, but I was "there" and can vouch for the fact it was held in due form, with Lee Mullen, recounting the "soap box" days when the brethren were lucky to have soap boxes for seats.

"Now Brother Ted, I'm off to bed. But just another word to you; I have got an awful lot of respect for patience, too, and in passing may I say, La Brea Masons never fail, you'll pull through, if only you use a hammer and a nail!"

Ted Heinold while no longer with us, having parted from this earth on January 1953, has left a host of friends behind and someday we hope again to extend our right hand, a token of friendship and brotherly love, until then Ted, "buenos noches, Amigos."





CHARLES BENJAMIN GOODRIDGE  
Worshipful Master  
1935

## Chapter IX

Charles Benjamin Goodridge, was one of the kindest and sincerest friends that it has ever been my experience to know. C.B.'s devotion to the lodge, and his sterling leadership as the first editor of the *Diplodocus* has left an imprint on the life of every man who was fortunate enough to call him Brother.

It has not been easy securing the life history of many of our Past Masters, as they are such modest fellows, but we have done our best, and in the case of C. B. Goodridge, we learn that he was born in the great State of Texas, February 16, 1897, and that his early schooling was had in the public schools in Austin, Texas. His fond parents attached to him the name of "Charles Benjamin," but outside of the records of the Bureau of Vital Statistics, he did not carry this monicker for long, and his friends attached to him a shorter and more homey name of "C.B." His father was his chief counselor in solving his youthful problems, and whenever C.B. became discouraged over some trivial matter (seemingly important to him) he would go to his father, who would quickly place his hand beneath his chin, hold up his head, look into his eyes apprehensively and say, "Son, look up—keep looking up—you cannot solve your problems with eyes on the ground." His understanding father occasionally would admonish him—"T'is easier to think evil than to do good, work hardest at the most difficult tasks first."

I recall that in 1903 there were several state institutions located in Austin, Texas, one for the feebleminded. C.B. once referred to it as an Insane Asylum. His father immediately suggested that he not refer to it as an Asylum, but rather an institution, and so C.B. did. C.B. liked to believe:

He who concerns himself in his brother's welfare, meets him squarely, renders him every assistance possible, relieves his distress and understands fellowship as known masonically, is a good mason. Years ago, yes, many years ago, there was a time, like most boys who have enjoyed those glorious "out-of-doors" days when a swimmin' hole was the delight of life, C. B. Goodridge frequently was one among a "dirty dozen" youngsters on their way to the ol' swimmin' hole for the most enjoyable afternoon of the week.

C.B. in 1909 had the good fortune of marrying Carole Von Carlowitz and from this happy marriage a daughter, Juanita Goodridge, was born, and she indeed was the apple of his eye.

C.B. for many years was accountant for the Interstate Commerce Commission and for about fifteen years and up to the time of his untimely death in 1946 as a result of a heart attack, occupied the responsible position as Secretary-Treasurer of Tibbetts-Westerfield Paint Co., a wholesale manufacture of paint and paint products in the City of Los Angeles.

C.B., for many years, lived on Stanley Ave., just north of Olympic Blvd., in the City of Los Angeles, and he fixed up his basement as a retreat for his brethren. C.B.'s "ship" as the retreat over a span of many years became known was open to one and all alike and many good times were had in the ship. As I recall, John Swank, on one of these occasions acquired the title of the

"Crap Shooting Parson," and there are a number of Past Masters who to their sorrow found that they were usually the losers when they hooked up with the "Parson." C.B. also contributed many poems and sonnets to the *Diplodocus*. Very few of the brethren know that at one time he included in his hobbies, that of a pigeon fancier (raising pigeons) and he won many ribbons, which were added to his trophies in the ship.

## OFFICERS INSTALLED

### CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY PROVES AN INNOVATION

At the Public Installation Ceremonies on December 18th, 1934, the officers heretofore named were duly installed in regular form with Wm. T. Wheeling, Inspector of the 85th Masonic District, as Master of Ceremonies, and retiring Master, Ted A. Heinold, Installing Officer. Bill Parcels, P.M., addressed the gathering, but more especially Ted Heinold, the retiring W.M., to whom he presented, on behalf of the lodge, a beautiful diamond studded Past Master's ring. In responding feelingly, Ted forfeited his right to membership in the Past Masters' Club by crashing in the moisture sector. Bouquets of beautiful flowers were presented to Mrs. Heinold and Mrs. Wendell Harvey, who made happy responses. After a few remarks by various of the officers elect, Lloyd Laumann being particularly insistent, adjournment was had to the children's Christmas Party, really the feature of the evening. With an attendance of over two hundred, including some seventy-five kiddies, for each one of whom a Christmas gift had been provided by the lodge, the fun commenced. Thus was originated, and at the behest of C.B., a custom which has been followed in succeeding years, "La Brea's Children's Christmas Party," although in succeeding years, it usually was held on a night different from the Installation Ceremonies evening.

The following brethren were elected and installed as officers for the current year.

C. B. Goodridge . . . . .	Worshipful Master
W. Lloyd Laumann . . . . .	Senior Warden
Jo D'Hart Hurd . . . . .	Junior Warden
Oliver A. Bourke . . . . .	Treasurer
Lloyd H. Fruehling . . . . .	Secretary
Jack M. Evans . . . . .	Chaplain
David M. Evans . . . . .	Senior Deacon
Wendell J. Harvey . . . . .	Junior Deacon
Edward Gallaudet . . . . .	Marshal
George F. Meitner . . . . .	Senior Steward
John W. Swank . . . . .	Junior Steward
Elwood M. Smith . . . . .	Organist
James H. Alen . . . . .	Tiler

The Board of Trustees for La Brea Lodge, consisted of Russell L. Ray, Chairman, Zellner O. Hart and Ted A. Heinold.

This was the first and only year that La Brea Lodge did not have an official Editor, for with this year, Oliver Bourke was elected and installed Treasurer, and a worthy successor to his toga as Editor of the *Diplodocus* could not be secured, but the staff did an excellent job, even without a "Chief."

During the year Lloyd Laumann was elected President of the 85th District Officers Association, and during succeeding years, John Swank, George



W. Burch, Jr., and Homer Parrish were likewise elected Presidents of the District Officers Association.

The candidates for the degrees were well qualified and continued La Brea's policy of accepting only those who were best qualified. We find that the following were elected or raised, those with an asterisk before their names being raised:

Carroll, Dean M.  
Erickson, Louis P.  
\*Herb, Keith L.  
\*Klenke, John H. (Van)

The following brethren were elected by affiliation:

Stewart, William H.	Wells, Earl W.
Mason, Dee H.	*Brown, Clarence J.
Petty, Waldo C.	*Dienger, Theodore R.
*Pool, Roscoe H.	*Smith, Jerome T.
Smith, J. O'Hara	Kneifel, Merritt P.

## ANNUAL MUSTER

### SMOKER COMBINED WITH TRADITIONAL GATHERING

La Brea's Annual Muster, without doubt one of the most important events in La Brea Lodge, was held in the Lodge Room on the 15th day of October, 1935. La Brea Lodge, as you will recall, was instituted on the 16th day of October, 1926. The Lodge was under dispensation for a period of one year, and on October 17, 1927, received its charter and was constituted by the Grand Lodge of the State of California, being the 650th Lodge so constituted, hence, La Brea Lodge No. 650 F. & A. M. In the past we celebrated our anniversary by holding our Annual Muster in November, the first event having been staged in November, 1927, during the time Bill Wheeling was Master of La Brea. Because of the fact the anniversary of our founding and institution actually occurred during the month of October, it was the consensus of opinion that the Muster should also be held in October. Hence you will find that in all succeeding years, the Annual Muster has been held in October, and as near the date of the 17th as possible.

The idea of an Annual Muster is somewhat unique in that it was originated and developed by our Lodge. It is indeed pleasant when the members gather together on this festive occasion to exchange words of greetings, as many who attend find that because of pressure of other work and business, it is the one night in the year they can gather at La Brea.

This year "C.B." added a new feature, that of a smoker, during which boxing and wrestling bouts were staged by amateur boxers from the University of Southern California (U.S.C.) and the University of California at Los Angeles (U.C.L.A.) The smoke was so thick you could cut it with a knife.

Lee Mullen recounted the old days of the soap box, and as usual, P.G.M. John Stuart Ross, and P.G.M. Dr. Sam Burke were our distinguished guests and speakers.

During the year the bowling craze struck La Brea, and practically any Tuesday night, after Lodge of course, you would find a lot of the boys knocking over the pins at the Wilshire Bowling Alleys.

## PAST MASTERS' NIGHT

As is our custom, the Past Masters of our Lodge, sometimes referred to as "the has beens," on the evening of Tuesday, November 26th, took their tuxedos out of moth balls, and "strutted their stuff." On this occasion our Junior Past Master Ted Heinold was in charge. In conferring the second section, Bill Parcels was in the East and the Third Degree lecture was given by Ted Heinold.

Past Masters officiating in the Degree were as follows:

Wm. T. Wheeling, 1926-27; Wm. H. Parcels, 1928; Wm. H. Barker, 1929; Jay O. Burnett, 1930; Wm. W. Wedding, 1931; Russell L. Ray, 1932; Zellner O. Hart, 1933; Ted A. Heinold, 1934.

Brother Walter Heaton, Past Master by affiliation, also participated on this occasion.

The Great Architect of the Universe, in his divine wisdom, visited La Brea Lodge under date of October 3, 1946, and beckoned our brother, C. B. Goodridge, to the place prepared for him in the Celestial Lodge on high.



While reminiscing, and who doesn't, as to the past, present and future, and in particular as the same pertains to La Brea Lodge, I like to think that there are embodied in the following article, many worth-while thoughts and expressions of:

### "WHEN A MAN IS A MASON"

"When he can look out over the rivers, the hills, and the far horizon with a profound sense of his own littleness in the vast scheme of things, and yet have faith, hope, and courage—which is the root of every virtue. When he knows that down in his heart every man is as noble, as vile, as divine, as diabolic, as lonely as himself, and seeks to know, to forgive, and to love his fellow man. When he knows how to sympathize with men in their sorrows, yea, even in their sins—knowing that each man fights a hard fight against many odds. When he has learned how to make friends, and keep them, and above all, how to keep friends with himself. When he loves flowers, and can hunt the birds without a gun, and feel the joy of a long forgotten thrill when he hears the laugh of a little child. When he can be happy and high minded amid the mean drudgeries of life. When star-crowned trees, and the glint of sunlight on flowing waters, subdue him like the thought of one much loved and long dead. When no voice of distress reaches his ears in vain, and no hand seeks his aid without responses. When he finds good in every faith that helps any man to lay hold of divine things and sees majestic meanings in life, whatever the name of that faith may be. When he looks into a wayside puddle and sees something beyond mud, and into the face of most forlorn fellow mortals and sees something beyond sin. When he knows how to pray, how to love, how to hope. When he has kept faith with himself, with his fellow man, with his God; in his hand a sword for evil; in his heart a bit of song—glad to live, but not afraid to die! Such a man has found the only real secret of Masonry, and the one that is trying to give to all the world."

—*Dr. Newton*

## RECOLLECTIONS

"I've wandered to the ol' lodge, Bill, I longed to see the three  
Great Lights of Masonry, worked o'er by you and me.  
But none were there to greet me, Bill, the lodge has moved,  
you know,  
Tho' I pictured them in silent prayer, some thirty years ago.

The Walls are not as white, Bill, with many specks of black,  
They're using it as storage—it's like a worn out shack.  
The man who's there works all in vain, it seems so very slow,  
Compar'd with that, when we were young, some thirty years ago.

The great big room is near death's door, the carpet is as waste,  
And in the South, the West and East, the cracks seem out of  
place.  
While here and there a door hinge squeaks, as it never did  
before;  
Then I recall these by-gone days,—some thirty years ago.

Out in the Tiler's room—we greeted them with glee;  
Old furniture and trunks were stored, I certainly was at sea.  
In that old place, we clasped hands with our visitors, and as now  
They felt at home among us,—some thirty years ago.

The same old hooks upon the wall, but rusty and unused,  
No more do Masons hang their hats—place that's been abused.  
And in the room where some played cards, cobwebs tossed to  
an' fro,  
They denoted idleness, unlike the thirty years ago.

The only thing that seemed to keep its freshness 'gainst the clime  
Was the mirror on the wall, and say, it surely put in overtime.  
And standing there, amid the haze, I gasped in wonder so!  
To see the change that time has brought, since thirty years ago.

Remember these two pillars there, so proud in glad array,  
That stood so gallantly before man saw the lights that day?  
The candidate had entered, seeking further truth to know;  
It seemed so real today, Bill, but 'twas thirty years ago.

My lids have long been dry, Bill, but memory brought the dew,  
As I thought when they elected—me instead of you.  
But did I claim the honor? No, Bill, 'tis not so,  
We held onto our stations—some thirty years ago.

Today we're in our new lodge rooms, dreaming of past and  
present,  
And between the two, I'd choose the past, but the younguns  
say I didn't.  
But here's to you, Bill, and here's to the boys of sixty or so,  
And here's to the lodge we all loved, some thirty years ago."

—Cee Bee Gee.



work qualified him for the appointment. John W. Klenke was appointed Chaplain and Jerome Smith was appointed Marshal for the ensuing year.

Dr. Arthur Barck was elected Tiler.

With Wm. T. Wheeling, our first Master and present Inspector, as Master of Ceremonies and Lee T. Mullin, our first Inspector, as Installing Officer, an excellent Installation was held.

C. B. Goodridge, as the retiring Master, was presented with a Past Master's emblem, consisting of a Past Master's diamond ring.

Hearst J. Ross, who had originally been appointed by C. B. Goodridge as Editor, was reappointed Editor for the year 1936.

The Board of Trustees consisted of Zellnor O. Hart, Chairman, Ted A. Heinold and C. B. Goodridge.

The following were either elected or raised during the year, and those with an asterisk before their names were raised:

Adams, Alexander W.

\*Avery, John T.

\*Gladson, Maurice E.

\*Merrill, Frank F.

Orem, Preston D.

\*Winch, John H.

\*Howe, Cyril S.

\*Thompson, Paul E.

\*Carroll, Dean M.

\*Erickson, Louis P.

\*Mason, Dee H.

\*Petty, Waldo C.

\*Smith, J. O'Hara

\*Walrod, Fred E.

\*Wells, Earl W.

The following Brethren affiliated with the lodge during the year:

Peebles, Willis D.

Pickens, Leonard H.

#### LA BREA IN REVIEW

It was not until this year that Bill Wheeling in an article appearing in the *Diplodocus*, entitled "La Brea in Review," recorded his impressions of the founding and we feel it is appropriate to record his impressions.

"While the minutes of La Brea Lodge reflect that the first preliminary meeting looking to the formation of a Masonic Lodge was held on May 11, 1926, such was not the case. These minutes were written to comply with the standard form of minutes furnished by the Grand Secretary. Mention is made of this not to cast any reflection on our good brother and Secretary Lloyd Fruehling, but rather as an explanation.

"Although I am not positive in this matter, I am of the opinion that in the fall of 1925 the matter of forming a Masonic Lodge in the neighborhood of Wilshire and La Brea had been discussed. At any rate in the early part of 1926 I was approached by two members of my own lodge relative to the formation of a lodge at that place. Having just finished a term as Master of Mizpah Lodge, and desiring to transfer my membership for good and sufficient reasons, I became interested and agreed to do what I could in the matter. I therefore attended a meeting in the early part of February, 1926,

and learned that quarters were available for a meeting place. In fact the meeting was held in the present lodge room, although at that time the partition separating the lodge room from the banquet room was not then in existence. At this meeting I learned that providing we could get a lodge formed whatever alterations were necessary would be made in the building to suit the needs of the prospective lodge. The best part of the matter was that the prospective landlord, Brother John Holmes agreed to take a dimit from his own lodge and come with the new lodge if we could put it over.

### MANY TRADES REPRESENTED

"Among those present at the first meeting were two brethren who were to be heard from more than anyone else before the lodge finally secured a dispensation. Those two brethren were Phil Kalech and Ed Meister. I might say that they were aided and abetted by another party, Brother Hal Hall. Sort of a three musketeers. Phil Kalech and his dad were the local grocerymen operating a very fine food market facing on Wilshire in the lower part of the building. Therefore it was natural that Phil should provide the boxes in lieu of chairs to sit on and later the food. Ed Meister was and still is in the general insurance business. I guess Ed must have spent a lot of time around Phil's grocery store looking for insurance prospects, because he was pretty well acquainted around Wilshire and La Brea. Of course Phil was probably better known, because he met a lot of people who traded with him. It was therefore natural that he got to know all the Masons and prospective Masons. Just as soon as we held a first meeting, Phil got busy spreading the gospel of a Masonic Lodge for Wilshire and La Brea. I believe that he spent all of his spare time and some he should not have spared talking about a lodge.

"Among Phil's friends were the local druggist at the corner of Sycamore and Wilshire, Clyde Caillet and the two branch bank managers, Zellner Hart and Irving Leigh. Then, too, a coffee salesman, Fred Lowe, who called on Phil became very much interested. A soap salesman who called on Phil by the name of Russell Ray thought a Masonic Lodge was a good idea and decided to cast his lot with the gang. Phil couldn't seem to dodge salesmen so he got a real estate salesman by the name of Bill Wedding interested. I do not know exactly how Hal Hall became interested but I presume through his acquaintance with Ed Meister and Phil Kalech. A young and budding accountant by the name of Lloyd Fruehling was just starting in business and having his office in the building got to looking for prospects and met the boys. With so many salesmen it is little wonder La Brea got off to a flying start.

### LA BREA UNDER WAY

"Meetings were held regularly after the first one. La Brea was selected as the name for the lodge and a petition for a dispensation was filed with the Grand Master. This petition was referred back to Brother Rollie Miller, our present Deputy Grand Master, who was then an Inspector. Brother Rollie was back East on a trip, so after some correspondence the petition reached the hands of another Inspector, Brother Lee Mullen. As is the custom now, it was necessary to secure the consent of all the Los Angeles Inspectors to the formation of a lodge. As the proposed Master I attended two or three meetings of the Inspectors and did not get much encouragement. Then Phil Kalech and Ed Meister got to work on Lee Mullen. Time after time they appeared at his

Russ, on the occasion of the Installation, was presented with a Past Master's Ring (of his own choosing, as has been true of all other P.M.'s) and his good wife, Clara, was presented with an appropriate gift from the members of La Brea Lodge. In addition, Lee T. Mullen presented Russ with the world famous walking stick which had its initiation at the 1947 session of Grand Lodge in San Francisco. Russ, John Swank and George W. Burch, Jr. were all equipped with a walking stick while at Grand Lodge and invoked considerable comment. Ray Smith, P.M., who was also in attendance, was induced to buy a cane with a "red tip."

During the year the following were elected, and those with an asterisk before their names were raised:

- |                       |                     |
|-----------------------|---------------------|
| *Arnason, Ralph       | *Bieber, Harry      |
| *Christensen, John E. | *Carlisle, Richard  |
| Coburn, Robert J.     | *McLean, Winsor W.  |
| *Doremus, Richard H.  | *Raidt, George C.   |
| *Hobbs, Joseph W.     | *Reed, Hoyt         |
| Nicoll, James R. P.   | *Spear, Dana M.     |
| Scapanite, Andrew O.  | *Uhlik, Robert V.   |
| Smith, William R.     | *Steele, Charles P. |
| Thorpe, Howell D.     | *Fleming, John R.   |
| Belser, Jack E.       |                     |

#### OUR JUNIOR PAST MASTER

The hands of fellowship extended to our new Junior Past Master as he stepped down from the Master's Chair to become a "P.M.," recalls to memory the day when Russ started to take his degree. A lot of water has passed under the bridge; since that time many sad and happy events have happened among the members of the Lodge.

We recall that Russ learned his work readily, passed a very satisfactory examination, served well and faithfully on all committees to which he was appointed and became a true and faithful officer. He has always been well liked among his fellow members, and has always taken a lead in various Lodge activities. On our trips to Grand Lodge, we have, perhaps, become better acquainted with Russ, for it was here that we labored, played, ate and traveled together.

#### LODGE QUARTERS

During the year, the management of the building, where we have met since La Brea was organized in 1926, out of the clear sky, notified us that they required the occupancy of the entire building and that they regretted to inform us that we could only expect to remain in our present quarters for a limited period. Brother George W. Burch, Jr., P.M., and Bob Robertson, P.M., were appointed a committee to arrange for new Lodge quarters, both temporary as well as permanent. These brothers devoted long hours to these purposes, and they brought together representatives of Henry Knox and L. A. 42 Masonic Lodges, Wil-Brea, Larchmont and Holly Vista chapters of the Order of Eastern Star, and the Amaranth chapter and organized a non-profit corporation under the name of Las Flores Masonic Temple Association, with Brother George as its first President. As the result of their efforts, plans were culminated which resulted in the erection of the Masonic structure at Flores Avenue and Beverly Blvd., in the City of Los Angeles, on 8338 Beverly Boulevard, and at which location the Lodge, commencing in the year of 1949, has met ever since, or at least up to the time this history went to press.



## OUR TRUSTEES

La Brea Lodge possesses three Trustees; what their duties are, no one knows—they do not know themselves—to the memory of the oldest members, not one meeting can be remembered. Apparently, this is a place to vote in the out-going Master so that he feels as though he had been elected to something. Seriously, though, it has always been my thinking, that this committee should be used to handle such problems of the Lodge, as the Worshipful Master might from time to time assign them, as certainly under present conditions their talents are wasted.

Someone wrote an article in the Diplodocus to the effect that for the year 1948, we had Three Trustees, known familiarly as the "Beef Trust," because it consisted of three well fed members, all hitting the scale at quite a figure—by figure I mean pounds. These Trustees were listed in the Diplodocus as follows: George Washington ('taint true) Burch, Charles Ford ('tis true) Laverty and Russell Quong Lee (how true). We understand that George originally hailed from Owensmouth—ever heard of it? It used to be the terminal of the Pacific Electric's Van Nuys-Owensmouth line, now known as Canoga Park. George received some education here and then he journeyed North—no, not to Grand Lodge, but to Palo Alto, near the University of California, Northern Branch, where, nestled in the beautiful coast range, is one of the most beautiful colleges on the coast, Stanford. Here is where he received his education to become an attorney. The writer of the article further stated that George was patient, kind, understanding and yet with it all, the ability to fight like a wildcat when necessary, and that he had made good in his profession and that everyone was proud to class him as a member of La Brea Lodge.

## MOVING DAY

Towards the middle of the year, and with a great deal of sadness, for it had been our first and only home, we moved from our commodious Lodge quarters, at Wilshire and La Brea Avenue, and through the courtesy of West Lake Masonic Lodge, La Brea and Henry Knox Masonic Lodges, were welcomed and were afforded the use of the Masonic Lodge facilities of this wonderful Lodge, rent free, and we are indeed indebted to them, as rental space could not be obtained at any price. Let us always remember Westlake Lodge and the Masonic Charity which it extended to us in our greatest hour of need.

## ANNUAL MUSTER

For the first time in our history, our Annual Muster, which was held on October 26th, 1948, was held in a Temple, which was not our home, at West Lake Masonic Lodge. The subject uppermost in all of our minds, was "what did the future hold for La Brea Lodge," or at least where were we to meet, and indeed it was to the great relief of all concerned to know that plans had been completed for the erection of a Masonic edifice at 8338 Beverly Blvd.

## DEDICATION OF OUR NEW LODGE TEMPLE

On Friday afternoon, November 12th, 1948, our new Lodge Building was officially dedicated with a ground breaking ceremony which was attended by a large number of the officers and members of the various interested organizations. The Master of Ceremonies was our own George Burch. He called on Ray Smith, P.M., to give the invocation, and then presented the Worshipful Inspectors, Frederic E. Clark of our 78th District, and Roy Bryan of the

office until at last in self defense he had to do something. So he agreed to do what he could to help get a dispensation for the lodge, providing he was allowed to select the officers of the proposed lodge. This was agreed to, and on his recommendation, Bill Parcels, an ex-army lieutenant from Imperial Valley was elected Senior Warden. Bill Barker of the Southern California Edison Company, a member of Hollywood Lodge, whose qualifications as a man and Mason were well known to Lee, was selected as Senior Deacon. I had brought two members of my old lodge to the meetings with me, Roy Haslett and Jay Burnett, who agreed to demit to the new lodge. Roy Haslett was selected as the Junior Warden. When all these matters had been settled things began to hum. As it was now nearly July, I took a trip back East and left matters in the hands of Bill Parcels. When I got back Bill had drilled the officers in the ritual. Roy Haslett had taken over the task of selecting the jewels and furniture and every prospective member had been doing something. The carpenters had been busy and put up the partition in the hall and changed the anteroom.

"As it was now near the Annual Communication of our Grand Lodge, the actual granting of the dispensation was held up until that time. On November 16, 1926, the first meeting was held under the dispensation and La Brea Lodge was instituted by Brother Samuel E. Burke acting for the Grand Master. The following officers were duly installed:

Wm. T. Wheeling . . . . .	Master
William H. Parcels . . . . .	Senior Warden
Roy L. Haslett . . . . .	Junior Warden
Clyde Caillet . . . . .	Treasurer
Lloyd H. Fruehling . . . . .	Secretary
Ed J. Meister . . . . .	Chaplain
W. H. Barker . . . . .	Senior Deacon
Phil Kalech . . . . .	Junior Deacon
Harold Hall . . . . .	Marshal
W. W. Wedding . . . . .	Senior Steward
Russell L. Ray . . . . .	Junior Steward
Fred P. Lowe . . . . .	Tiler

"Charter Members in addition to the officers at the founding of La Brea were:

A. S. Allen*	F. E. Horne
H. J. Barton	W. Mellenthin
J. O. Burnett	R. H. Quimby
B. A. Burton	Frank H. Shepler
R. C. Burton	A. L. Wilson
Z. O. Hart	A. C. P. Zeuner*
J. S. Holmes*	*Deceased

"The first Stated Meeting was held on December 7, 1926, at which time eighteen petitions for the degrees of Masonry were received and nine applications for affiliation. It is to be noted that among the applications for affiliation were those of C. B. Goodridge and Jo Hurd.

"On December 29, 1926, the group was saddened by the death of one of our Charter Members, Brother Anthony C. P. Zeuner. Brother Zeuner was a retired army officer and had been very active in the formation of the lodge.

## DEGREE WORK STARTED

"The first degree work done in the lodge was on January 11, 1927. The first candidate to receive the first degree was the son of one of our Charter Members, Brother A. Allen, I. R. Allen. The first second degree was conferred on February 15, 1927, and the first candidate was A. B. Leonard. The first third degree was conferred on March 29, 1927, and the first member of the lodge to receive this honor was Joe S. Brown. Little did we dream that we were later to lose the friendship and happy hand clasp of that brother who was called by the Supreme Grand Master of the Universe a little over a year later. The first examination in the third degree lecture was held on April 5, 1927, and the writer took the examination.

"Many fine meetings were held from time to time and the portals of our lodge were visited by men prominent in Masonic work. We were busy conferring the degrees so it was not long before the annual communication of Grand Lodge rolled around again. We therefore went before the Charter Committee of that body and were granted a charter with the number of 650. Accordingly on October 17, 1927, La Brea Lodge No. 650 was constituted in the hall of Wilshire Lodge. Again Brother Samuel E. Burke acted as Grand Master in this ceremony.

## FIRST DIPLODOCUS IS PUBLISHED

The first issue of the *Diplodocus* was printed in April, 1927, and the first editor was C. B. Goodridge. A previous bulletin had been gotten out which was reprinted in the *Dip*. The name of the bulletin was selected as symbolical of the location of the lodge and was taken from the name of the prehistoric monsters who roamed the country and became stuck in the La Brea tar pits.

"On November 16, 1928, the beautiful canopies and pictures which adorn the stations of the Worshipful Master, and the Senior and Junior Wardens were presented to the lodge by Mrs. Rozelle O. Brown in memory of her husband Joseph Shipley Brown. Again on June 11, 1929, she presented another gift to the lodge consisting of the beautiful officers' jewels and the working tools.

"From the inception of La Brea Lodge it has steadily grown. It is true that its progress was retarded but the spirit of Masonry has ever been present. The annual muster was started on November 15, 1927, and has been held each year since. It is an event which is looked forward to and has never failed to attract almost all of our members.

"Thus we close this brief history of the lodge and if we have overlooked a lot of facts it has not been intentional. After ten years your memory plays some strange tricks with you, so it is with me.

WM. T. WHEELING."

During the year, Past Master J. O. Burnett took unto himself a lovely bride, Miss Bernice Moran, and thus we are happy to report that all present Past Masters are duly, regularly and happily married.

It will be of interest to learn that during the year one of our Past Masters, Ted A. Heinold, and who was a traveling auditor, along about January, 1923, received a telegram from Mrs. Heinold, which read as follows: Twins arrived tonight. More by mail."

It further appears that Ted, after serving his apprenticeship as Master of the lodge, resumed his duties as traveling auditor, but in 1936, he happened



to recall the telegram he received in January, 1923, and in a moment of panic, Ted decided "enough is enough" and so he ups and moves his family, including himself, to Butler, Pennsylvania, the climate of which seemed to look after traveling auditors. Anyway, the Lodge presented Ted with a Silver Past Master's card, as a going away present. Ted, however, finally had his fill of Pennsylvania, so he ups and returns to the "Golden State."

During the year, we paused in our labors, that we might pay fitting tribute to those two brothers who passed on to that house not made with hands, the supreme design of the Great Architect of the Universe, Edward Carl Austin and Harvey Herrick. In addition to these two brothers, the following brethren, who had previously departed this earth, were not with us to answer the roll call at our Annual Muster:

Abraham S. Allen  
Joseph S. Brown  
Samuel C. Haver, Jr.  
John S. Holmes  
John Otter

Alvah H. Pray  
Arnold V. Smith  
John H. Whittmaack  
Anthony C. P. Zeuner

#### ANNUAL MUSTER AND ROLL CALL

The tenth anniversary of the founding of La Brea Lodge was celebrated in the Lodge Room on Tuesday evening, October 20, 1936. Guests for the occasion included John Stewart Ross, P.G.M., Will Fisher, P.G.M., Dr. Sam Burke, P.G.M., and Lee T. Mullen (although the *Diplodocus* calls him E. T. Mullen), La Brea's first Inspector. Following the dinner we harked back to the soap box days, with the cooperation of the old timers who reminisced of the days of the founding of La Brea Lodge. The story of the beginning of La Brea Lodge is covered in the item above set forth and was delivered by Bill Wheeling in person.



The subject of preparedness is ever with us, and we find that C. B. Goodridge composed the following sonnet, entitled "Preparedness."

Like the Chinese in China, we'll be on the run,  
If our Uncle Samuel don't invest in more guns.  
Like the Serbs in old Serbia, we'll be in despair,  
If we're not patriotic, and quit the "hot air."  
Like some nations in Europe, we'll have airplanes,  
If we have to write senators; of this we complain.  
Like an accident that happens, it'll be a mishap,  
If, while we sleep, we'll be wiped off the map.  
Like the Japs in Japan, it's preparedness first;  
If we don't follow suit, then prepare for the worst!  
Like small countries in Europe, we'll be on our knees,  
If some foreign nation blockades the seas.  
We'll feel like a dog with a tin-canned tail,  
If any enemy country seizes our mail.  
Like the Germans in Germany, we'll all get the "blues,"  
If the American people don't voice their own views.  
Like some nations, neutral, we'll stay on the fence;  
We'll show 'em a few things with our own common sense!

By request (it was not my request) we are including in this history an article contributed to the *Diplodocus* by George W. Burch, Jr., and which is applicable to our every day problems:

### "THIS EVERY DAY WORLD OF OURS"

"In facing our every day problems, we frequently lose sight of the fact that the world was not created in a year, nor Rome built in a day, and we are therefore prone to worry.

It is an old Chinese proverb that, 'The legs of a stork are long, the legs of a goose are short.'

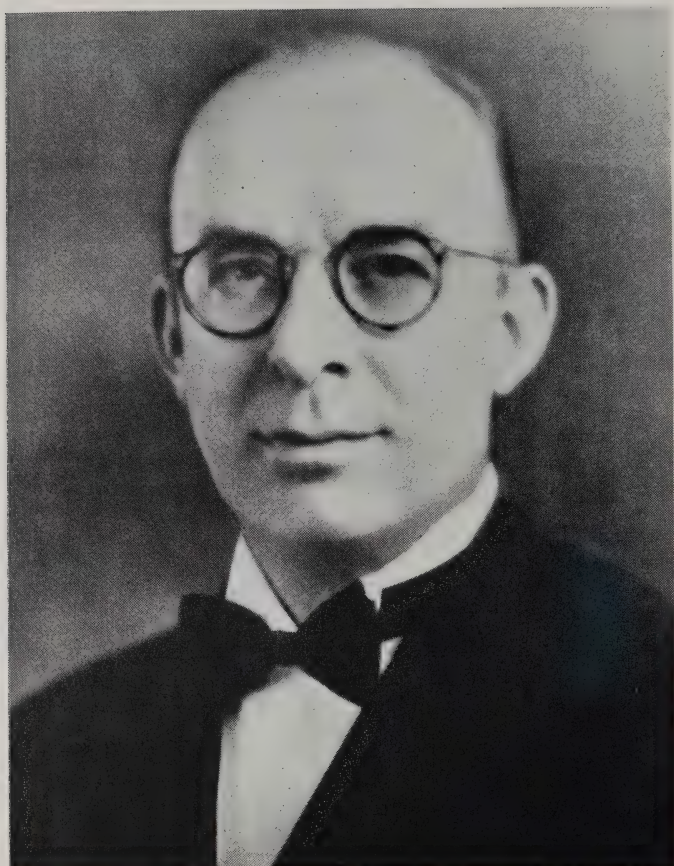
You cannot make the legs of the stork short, neither can you make the legs of the goose long. So why worry?

When attainment of our hopes and ambitions seem impossible there is tremendous encouragement in that success comes little by little.

Sometimes it is necessary to revise this process of building, and instead of building up, break down. Burdens and difficulties which seem unendurable and insurmountable *en masse*, can be separated into their weak component parts and be licked singly, one at a time. A bundle of sticks which even the strongest man cannot break when bound together, can be snapped as a twig by the smallest child, when separated into twigs.

Let the principles of Freemasonry, which can, if we but permit it, be our guiding light and balance wheel by which we, as members of the craft, are better able to practice out of the lodge those great moral virtues which are inculcated in it.

When we have learned to put things together, and how to take things apart, we've jolly well got the hang of successful living."



JO D'HART HURD  
Worshipful Master  
1937



## Chapter XI

To Jo D'Hart (apologies to his parents) but to us best known as Jo D. Hurd, and to his friends, which includes all of the members of La Brea Lodge, just plain Jo, La Brea Lodge is indebted, not only for his sterling leadership in the trying year of 1937, but as the first publisher of the *Diplodocus* for many, many years, and which is still more important, his sustained and continued interest in La Brea Lodge even to date, and he in this regard is indeed an example for some of us Past Masters to follow.

Jo first opened his eyes on April 30, 1884, (and even then he gave possibilities of being a printer because he was "red all over.") Jo was one of six boys and, incidentally, Jo's brother, Gere H. Hurd, was Master of Guardian Lodge No. 596, F. & A. M. of the State of California.

Jo, being a very modest fellow, as are all Past Masters, (you sure can tell that a Past Master is writing this history) has been very reticent in submitting, voluntarily at least, very many facts concerning his youth. Knowing Jo, we feel sure that his was an exemplary one, and it, indeed, would be libelous were we to say otherwise. However, he did reveal to us that he was born at Lincoln, Nebraska. While still in swaddling clothes, Jo's parents moved to Denver and he says they took him along for lack of anything better to do, and when Jo became free, white and sixteen, he moved to Los Angeles.

For some years Jo was in the automobile business, but for more years than he likes to recall, he has headed the Hurd Printing Company, which he and his good wife, Clara, operated together for so many years, but in the early part of 1953, his helpmate was taken by the "Supreme Being." In the year 1954, Jo and Grace Heinold, the widow of Ted Heinold, P.M., were married and we wish them well because they, indeed, are a deserving couple.

Jo, shortly before the death of Clara, changed the name of his company to Hurd-Moon, Inc. Jo for many years was the printer of the *Diplodocus*, and with the exception of Ray S. Smith, who in recent years has published our *Bulletin*, he has been its only other printer. Jo's friends are many, but he was particularly close to Lloyd Laumann, P.M., and Ted Heinold.

An excellent corps of officers was chosen to guide La Brea's destinies for the current year, as the record attests:

Jo D'Hart Hurd . . . . .	Worshipful Master
David M. Evans . . . . .	Senior Warden
Wendell J. Harvey . . . . .	Junior Warden
Charles D. Bayles . . . . .	Treasurer
Lloyd H. Fruehling . . . . .	Secretary
Cyril S. Howe . . . . .	Chaplain
George F. Meitner . . . . .	Senior Deacon
John W. Swank . . . . .	Junior Deacon
Jerome T. Smith . . . . .	Marshal
James H. Alen . . . . .	Senior Steward
Walter E. Robertson . . . . .	Junior Steward
W. Ford Hanes . . . . .	Tiler

Oliver O. Bourke, John W. Klenke, Dr. Arthur Barck, and who filled the stations of Treasurer, Chaplain and Marshal for the preceding year, respectively, have the grateful thanks of the lodge for their active service on behalf of the lodge and their places were taken by Captain (U. S. Marine Corps, retired) Charles D. Bayles, Cyril S. Howe and W. Ford Hanes.

The Board of Trustees comprised the following members: Ted A. Heindold, chairman, C. B. Goodridge and W. Lloyd Laumann.

#### ELEVENTH ANNUAL INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS

With our Worshipful Master's brother, Gere H. Hurd, P.M., of Guardian Lodge No. 596, acting as Installing Officer, and our own Past Master and Inspector, Wm. T. Wheeling, acting as master of ceremonies, the officers of La Brea Lodge No. 650, F. & A. M., for 1937, were duly installed in their respective stations on the evening of December 15, 1936.

As a reward for his year of service as Master during 1936, our retiring Master, W. Lloyd Laumann, was presented with a life membership in the Los Angeles Scottish Rite Bodies, Wm. T. Wheeling being the other Past Master so remembered with such a membership. To insure a proper reception among the Past Masters, Lloyd was also presented with a Past Master's apron. Mrs. Laumann was presented with a beautiful bouquet in appreciation of the lonely evenings spent by her while her husband was attending to his lodge duties. I hasten to mention the Parcels buttons, which I have previously failed to mention—the beautiful gold Master's, Senior and Junior Warden's buttons, which are significant of their respective stations, originally presented to the lodge by Past Master Bill Parcels. Each year and following the installation of the officers, the retiring Master presents the Master's button to the newly installed Master; the newly installed Master, in turn, through the vehicle of the Senior Deacon, presents the Senior Warden's button to the newly installed Senior Warden, who completes the transfer of the Parcel buttons, by the presentation of the Junior Warden's button, through the vehicle of the Junior Deacon, to the newly installed Junior Warden.

Mrs. Wendell J. Harvey, wife of our P. M. Wendell J. Harvey, who has participated in the installation proceedings as a vocalist for many years, generously rendered several vocal selections in her usual charming manner. Mrs. Harvey, please take a bow.

During the year, the following were elected to membership and those with an asterisk before their names were raised:

Garragues, James D.

\*Lacy, Alfred H.

Lindsay, William D., Jr.

\*Roberts, Nelson E. (cousin of Bob Robertson)

Noel R. Robertson (brother of Bob Robertson)

\*Smith, Ray S.

\*Mason, Eugene

\*Boyd, Edward S.

\*Adams, Alexander W.

\*Lee, Roy J.

\*Orem, Preston O.

The following brethren were elected to membership by affiliation:

Gustafson, Herbert S.

Huefe, Edward G. (Major, U. S. Marines)

Ingham, Claude E.

## ONCE AROUND THE LODGE

Well, fellows, guess who showed up at lodge during the year? None other than Charles (Smiles) Laverty, a former member of La Brea Lodge, but now a member of Oceanside Lodge No. 381, Oceanside, California, where Charles has his own Ford automobile agency. Before someone calls for the man with the butterfly net, we hasten to add that Charles subsequently demitted from Oceanside Lodge to La Brea Lodge and in 1946 served La Brea Lodge as its Master.

I am glad to see that La Brea Lodge is going to pipes instead of to the dogs. The latest convert is our labor to refreshment caller, Wendell Jennings Harvey. You should see the pipe. Looks like a submarine either making a dive or just coming up. Ask Harv, he is a Navy man.

Here is a speech written by George W. Burch, Jr., which he will present at stated meetings when the members are tired and ready to beat it home: "Brethren (and gentlemen), on this auspicious occasion . . . continuing . . . in conclusion, let me say . . . thank you." Thunderous applesauce—pardon me—applause.

It has been so cold that John Swank on one occasion put on the Senior Deacon's work at the school of instruction with his overcoat on and his "heater" going full blast.

Well, it happened! Time—New Year's Eve. Place—somewhere in Los Angeles, car going one place, another car going another place and both trying to occupy the same place at the same time. Result—one wreck and one Secretary with his left ribs mixed up with his right.

## TEN YEARS AGO IN LA BREA LODGE

Investigating committee rushing feverishly hither and yon. Officers getting polished up on their work, ready to confer degrees. Five Thirds getting lined up for a Saturday afternoon (and we thought that George W. Burch, Jr., was a slave driver in 1945). The Diplodocus not yet born. Members standing around Wilshire and La Brea until 1:00 A.M., talking about the affairs of La Brea Lodge. (I sure hope none of the old timers' wives see this news item.) Phil Kalech with his white coat on waiting on customers in his grocery store underneath the lodge room. Irving Patoli Leigh taking in the dough at his bank and Zellner Hart, across the street, doing likewise. Clyde Caillett dishing out the prescriptions. The Thrifty and Sontag hadn't been thought of then. An oil station across the street where the thirteen-story building stands now. C. B. Goodridge starting his Model Tee Ford with a paper clip furnished by Phil Kalech. Ed Meister a struggling insurance man. Hal Hall making two blades of grass grow where only one grew before. Bill Parcels collecting records for the Title Insurance Company down at the Hall of Records. Fred Lowe tiling when not selling coffee—it was Ben Hur then and still is. Russ Ray selling soap. Bill Wedding boosting the west end real estate. Bill Barker auditing for the power trust and still is. Our present Master being investigated, (P.S., for membership), also our Junior Past Master and Ted Heinold, another Past Master.

## NEWS FLASH! . . .

Our own Jo Hurd, on February 28, 1954, made a very special trip to Las Vegas. To play the cards, says you. "No," says I. For I have it from Jo himself that Grace Heinold, widow of P. M. Ted Heinold, who through coincidence, or was it, happened to be in Las Vegas at the same time, and he took the solemn vows, which made them husband and wife. Such happiness could not happen to two finer people.





DAVID MORRIS EVANS  
Worshipful Master  
1937

## Chapter XII

David Morris Evans, a human dynamo, if there ever was one, first saw the light of day at Balensville, Arkansas, on November 18th, 1896. Dave came from a devout Christian family, and spent his early years in a small town in the Ozarks. Dave has eleven brothers and sisters, and with such a family, Dave, along with other members of the family, arose daily at 4:40 A.M.

Dave has lived in many different places, a few being New Orleans, Louisiana; New York City, N.Y.; San Diego, San Francisco, Oakland and Los Angeles.

Dave, in 1922, married Lois Wiggins in Enid, Oklahoma, and this family was blessed with one child, a daughter, Marian Evans, who now is Marian Evans Moore.

Dave received his education the hard way, as he worked his way through high school and college. At the outbreak of World War I, Dave entered the United States Naval Academy at Annapolis, Maryland, and on the completion of his academic training was commissioned an ensign, and during World War I, he served in both the Atlantic and Pacific fleets as well as ashore, and as I recall, he became a lieutenant junior grade before the termination of this war.

Following World War I Dave was a very successful land developer and subdivider in Los Angeles County.

Upon the entry of the United States into World War II, Dave was called to the colors once again, and on his retirement from the Navy on the grounds of disability, he had risen to the rank of commander.

Dave's civic activities and organizations are too numerous to recount, other than to refer to a few. Besides his membership in La Brea Lodge, he belongs to the Los Angeles Scottish Rite Consistory, Al Malaikah Shrine, Wilshire Rotary Club and the Arkansas Commandery.

Dave has traveled over a considerable portion of the world, and wherever and whenever possible, has visited many Masonic lodges. He is no mean fisherman, as he once caught a 9 pound, 12 ounce large mouth bass. While serving with the U. S. Navy in Washington, D. C., was afforded the rare privilege of seeing first hand the operation of our governmental affairs.

Dave Evans was the first member of La Brea Lodge to be elected Master who was raised in La Brea Lodge. Prior to his elevation, all Masters had been raised in other lodges, before becoming affiliated with La Brea. This was indeed a unique honor, but a well deserved one.

### TWELFTH ANNUAL INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS

With Lee T. Mullen, Past Master of Westlake Lodge acting as Installing Officer, and our own Past Master and Inspector, Wm. T. Wheeling, acting as master of ceremonies, the officers of La Brea Lodge for 1938 were duly



LLOYD H. FRUEHLING  
Secretary 1926-1938



installed in their respective stations on the evening of December 14, 1937, as follows:

David M. Evans . . . . .	Worshipful Master
Wendell J. Harvey . . . . .	Senior Warden
George F. Meitner . . . . .	Junior Warden
James H. Alen . . . . .	Treasurer
Chas. D. Bayles . . . . .	Secretary
Ray S. Smith . . . . .	Chaplain
John W. Swank . . . . .	Senior Deacon
Walter E. Robertson . . . . .	Junior Deacon
Earl W. Wells . . . . .	Marshal
Frank E. Merrill . . . . .	Senior Steward
John H. Winch . . . . .	Junior Steward
Fred P. Lowe . . . . .	Tiler

This corps of officers presents some startling changes, for the first time in history of La Brea Lodge, a new name appears under the heading of Secretary Charles D. Bayles.

James Alen went from Marshal to Treasurer, Jerome T. Smith, Cyril S. Howe and W. Ford Hanes found that due to pressure of business, they could no longer continue with their activities as officers, and accordingly, Frank F. Merrill was appointed Senior Steward, John H. Winch, Junior Steward, Ray S. Smith, Chaplain, Earl W. Wells, Marshal, and Fred P. Lowe, La Brea's first Tiler, was brought out of retirement and was appointed Tiler.

The August Board of Trustees consisted of W. Lloyd Laumann, chairman, C. B. Goodridge, and Jo D. Hurd.

During the year, the following were elected to membership and those with an asterisk before their name were raised:

- \*Bontecou, Duane C.
- \*Ervin, Leland J.
- \*Nowak, Chester
- \*Redmond, Rudolph H.
- \*Ricord, Jr., Willard C.
- \*Kirk, Edwin L.
- Robertson, Noel R.

The following brethren were elected by affiliation:

- Golden, John M.
- Laverty, Charles F.
- Colbert, John W.
- Davidson, David

#### LLOYD HERBERT FRUEHLING

It is, indeed, fitting and proper for us to pause for a few moments, not because he has departed this mortal earth, but to pay our respects to our first official lodge Secretary, Lloyd H. Fruehling.

This being the first year that Lloyd Fruehling has not been Secretary of the lodge, we believe that it is only appropriate that we recount his exploits, from birth to date, not only because of the fact that he served as Secretary of the lodge so faithfully for so many years, but he was also a charter member, and by unanimous acclaim, La Brea Lodge, by appropriate action, declared and made him Secretary Emeritus; in fact, he is the only former Secretary, up to and including the year 1954, who has been so singularly honored.

Lloyd first made himself known to the world, when on the 1st day of June, 1897, he was born in San Francisco, and was one of two boys. Some day ask Lloyd to tell you of the San Francisco fire and earthquake.

A search of records reveal that Lloyd was initiated into Masonry on October 8, 1918, passed on February 11, 1919 and raised to the sublime Degree of Master Mason on February 25, 1919, in Argenta Lodge No. 3, F. & A. M., of Salt Lake City, Utah. Argenta Lodge was formed in 1871.

Lloyd, while he may have given up his job, that of Secretary, was persuaded to become associate editor of the *Diplodocus*, and he contributed many an interesting article to our *Lodge Bulletin*.

On several different occasions Lloyd was tendered an appointment as an appointive officer, which, had he accepted, would undoubtedly have meant that today he would be numbered among the Past Masters; however, you will find him in the company of the Past Masters, for if you will look for the "picture gallery of the Past Masters," you will find along side of these gentlemen, and in solitary repose, the picture of the one and only one, Lloyd H. Fruehling. Lloyd, on many occasions, has stated that "when the good Lord made him," he then, in a spirit of remorse, threw away the mold, and there is many a Past Master, in a spirit of levity, will join in the refrain, "Glory Hallelujah."

One of the issues of the *Diplodocus* gave the Master's message, under the title "Life's Forms," and a reading will awaken memories in all of us:

"The trouble with a lot of us is that we want to accomplish many things, but aren't willing to pay the price. If life were a game in which the rewards were handed out on a silver platter to anyone who happened to ask for them, lots of folks would sleep in rose-beds."

But fortunately, you've got to reckon with the thorns.

"He who climbs a tree," says Thackeray, "must grasp its branches—not the blossoms."

Which means that you've got to pull yourself up over the rough places and not expect simply to coast down hill all the time.

We get pretty much what we go after—if we go after it hard enough, and persistently enough.

About the only thing that has ever come into my life without being worked for or sought after is trouble.

And a lot of that could be traced back to a desire to take hold of the blossoms instead of grasping the branches.

Thorns serve a purpose—they teach us the lesson that, even in plucking roses, one must go about it with care and skill and practical knowledge—or get stuck. (*Scottish Rite Bulletin*)

#### ANNUAL MUSTER, OCTOBER 18

It is traditional with the membership of La Brea Lodge, to enjoy one evening each year, when all of us try to gather around the festive board and enjoy the brotherliness existent in our fraternity.

On this festive occasion, we were honored with the presence of such notables as Past Grand Masters William Rhodes Harvey, John Stuart Ross, Samuel E. Burke, Dana Weller, and of course Lee T. Mullen of the "soap box days."



In closing let me say of Dave, having contributed of his time, his generosity, and generalship, he served us throughout the stations and retired

to the post of Past Master with much to his credit. Dave, in his closing message, and with the frank admission that he desired to be accepted by the Past Masters, for be it known to all and sundry, that C. B. Goodridge and other Past Masters worked out a ritual initiation required of all retiring Past Masters before they could become a "Master of the Past," which is sometimes called the "Fourth Degree," (the writer of this history, has the ritual in his possession, and perhaps some day the initiation will be revived) wrote the following epistle to the Past Masters:

"Dear Brothers:

With a few more rounds of the clock I too will be wrapped in a sheet and placed on the shelf as a ghost among the "has beens." My coming, however, to join you is surrounded by more anxiety because of your being there. Without exception, it seems that the general rule is for Past Masters to be the guiding hand, the controlling body, the guard of interference, and so forth. Not so, however, is La Brea Lodge. You, brethren, have established a tradition which, without question, redounds specifically to the benefit of La Brea Lodge, a policy of non-interference. On the other hand, a close scrutiny of conditions of the lodge discloses an ever willingness to be consulted, but not to flaunt your ideas. This is of the greatest assistance to the officers of your lodge. We truly have a great group of Past Masters."

The Past Masters in succeeding years have continued with this fine La Brea tradition.



#### IN A FRIENDLY SORT O' WAY

When a man ain't got a cent,  
And he's feeling kinda blue,  
And the clouds hang dark and heavy  
An' won't let the sunshine through,  
It's a great thing, O my brethren,  
For a fellow just to lay  
His hand upon your shoulder  
In a friendly sort of way

It makes a man feel curious—  
It makes the teardrops start,  
An' you feel a sort o' flutter  
In the region of your heart!  
You can't look up and meet his eyes;  
You don't know what to say,  
When his hand is on your shoulder  
In a friendly sort o' way.

Oh, the world's a curious compound,  
With its honey and its gall,  
With its cares and bitter crosses—  
But a good world, after all.  
An' a good God must have made it—  
Leastwise, that is what I say,  
When a hand is on my shoulder  
In a friendly sort o' way.

—James Whitcomb Riley





WENDELL JENNINGS HARVEY  
Worshipful Master  
1939

## Chapter XIII

The Masonic Year 1939 was one of the most difficult and trying years in the history of La Brea Lodge, because the backwash from the great depression hit us the hardest during the year. Fortunate, indeed, was La Brea Lodge in having as its titular leader Wendell Jennings Harvey.

Wendell, according to "father time," first gave indication of being a salesman when he was born at Valley City, North Dakota, on June 5, 1897, but so great was his lung power that he soon convinced his doting parents that here, indeed, was a "Master salesman," and, I hasten to add, how right they were.

Wendell, unlike Ray Smith, has only migrated a few times, and among the various locals we find he has lived at Berkeley, Oakland and Los Angeles, California.

In backtracking on Wendell, we find that on one occasion his father drove most of one night in a sleigh drawn by a team of horses in North Dakota in order to shake the hand of Theodore Roosevelt on one of his campaign trips through the United States. Wendell, although only five years of age at the time, met this distinguished American, and from this meeting it may be that his first strong political convictions were formed.

In 1924, Wendell married Ruth Garnett, and this couple was blessed with two children, James R. Harvey, now a dentist, and Montalee Harvey. Wendell is eligible for membership in the Grandfathers' Club, for we find that the stork has delivered three grandchildren—James G. Harvey, Thomas Harvey and Susan Lee Harvey.

Mrs. Ruth Harvey has given generously of her time and efforts to La Brea Lodge, and for many years she charmed us with musical renditions at our Installations. We understand that Ruth in her earlier years has sung with the Los Angeles Grand Opera Company and we are indeed grateful to her for the pleasure she has given us in the years gone by with her beautiful voice.

According to our secret operatives, Wendell greatly enjoys the company of his old friend, P. M. Russ Ray, and listening to Lloyd Fruehling express his political beliefs, at the same time trying to get a word in edgewise on his own political beliefs and also watching George Burch, P.M., attempt to stand under his own power, after kneeling, (this was before George reduced.)

Wendell has been an outstanding salesman for over thirty years and during this time, he also found time to be a manufacturer, salesmanager, importer and exporter. While Wendell did not have many candidates for the degrees during his year as Master due to the tight economic conditions which then prevailed, he did not let this condition daunt him, and due to his driving energy and leadership, he developed considerable activity within the lodge itself, not the least of which was his trial balloon in changing the name of the Diplodocus to the La Brea-Gram. While the balloon burst, yet I suspect that Wendell hoped it would all along and he did create a revived interest in the Diplodocus and the lodge itself.

## CLOSED INSTALLATION

On Tuesday, December 13, 1938, in the Hall of La Brea Lodge, the officers for the ensuing Masonic year were installed with the complete Masonic ceremony, including all the secret work. The installation was for Master Masons only. Many of you who are acquainted only with "Open Installations," are not aware of the fact that the Masonic Ritual contemplates a "Closed Installation" ceremony, and this was the first one in history of La Brea Lodge. In fact there have only been two since and they were in 1940 when George Meitner was installed as Master and in 1941 when John Swank was installed as Master.

With Lee T. Mullen as Installing Officer and our own Bill Wheeling as Master of Ceremonies, the following elective and appointive officers were installed in due form:

Wendell J. Harvey . . . . .	Worshipful Master
George F. Meitner . . . . .	Senior Warden
John W. Swank . . . . .	Junior Warden
George W. Burch, Jr. . . . .	Treasurer
Charles D. Bayles . . . . .	Secretary
Hearst J. Ross . . . . .	Chaplain
Walter E. Robertson . . . . .	Senior Deacon
Frank F. Merrill . . . . .	Junior Deacon
William James Mann . . . . .	Marshal
John H. Winch . . . . .	Senior Steward
Ray S. Smith . . . . .	Junior Steward
Fred P. Lowe . . . . .	Tiler

James H. Alen and Earl W. Wells, Treasurer and Marshal, respectively, during 1938, due to pressure of business, found they could not continue, and hence, George W. Burch, Jr., was appointed Treasurer and Hearst J. Ross gave up his editorship of the *Diplodocus* to become Chaplain, and W. James Mann was appointed Marshal, with all other officers advancing one station. Brother Dave was presented with a Past Master's ring by Lloyd Fruehling, who brought dew drops to Dave's eyes with his kindly remarks.

The august Board of Trustees included C. B. Goodridge, chairman, ably assisted by Jo D. Hurd and David M. Evans.

The following were elected and raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason during the year:

- \*Lee, Russell
- Hauner, John F.
- \*McBride, James W.
- Wilson, William F.

The following brothers were elected by affiliation:

- Felsen, Louis
- Johnson, Gustav A.
- Ladd, Donald McK.
- Lee, Lael C.

Those of you who are still with us up to this point will recall that in one of the earlier chapters, which we devoted to recounting the history and origin of the *Diplodocus*, we made reference to one year, due to economic necessity, our Wendell J. Harvey saw fit to issue the *Bulletin* in mimeograph form. Incidentally, he personally ran off each issue on a mimeograph machine belonging to George F. Meitner, Master in 1940, and Lloyd Fruehling, who



at the time were accountants in the Black Building. This would still have been all right, but he called the first issue "The La Brea-Gram," instead of the "Diplodocus," but he did not make the same mistake twice and while all subsequent issues during Wendell's year appeared in mimeograph form, yet they bore at the masthead the familiar title "Diplodocus." Incidentally, Jimmie Mann was the editor of the Diplodocus during 1939.

During the year, the U.S.C. varsity football team was the guest of La Brea Lodge, and this splendid team of Howard Jones', indeed, made an excellent impression, although someone remarked (and it was not a California or Stanford man, but one of the U.S.C. coaches) that it was difficult to teach reading and writing to a football player in the same year. I recall that there were present Ray George, first string right tackle, Tony (Two Ton) Tonnelli, first string left tackle, Doyle Nave, the boy who threw the forward passes in the Rose Bowl game and that won the game in 1939, Al Kruger, the boy who caught Nave's passes—four in a row—that led to victory, and Hobbs Adams, assistant to Howard Jones, an All American end, and the end coach at U.S.C.

During the year, the lodge quarters were expanded by the addition of a billiard room, fully equipped, including a standard sized billiard table, which was contributed by W. Lloyd Laumann.

An interesting by-line in the Diplodocus, entitled "Editor's Pipe Dreams," reveals the activities of some of our members, (don't sue or shoot me, but W. James Mann).

"Our Good Ship of State—C. B. When do we sail? Dave, how do you like the pigs knuckles and caviar—Jimmy Garrigues seen at Cahuenga Lodge last week—when will we hear that quartet, Jimmy?—Joe (Monk) Ervin fixes W.C.s—We hope to see Al Phelan with his friend this stated meeting—come oftener, Al.—What a conglomeration, buckwheat cakes, butter, syrup, soft boiled eggs, salt and pepper, well mixed—Bill Jones says it's fine.—Chet Nowak's nose is now buried in books—when exams are over, let's see you, Chet.—Edison Co. answers our prayers by holding Bill Barker over for February stated meeting.—Our good Samaritan—Harold Wakefield. We wonder whether the last rains in the Valley washed Jim Alen away. Call Bill Bailey "Figureball." Do Barck and Carroll go fishing between "bridges?" Bob Barker and Ed Seifert are our salad bowl specialists. Special toupe demonstrations—by Jo Hurd, Ray Smith, Dave Evans, Hal Hall, Cliff Watson, George Meitner, Jim Parcels (early Supreme Court style) and Ted Heinold. Les Blankfield and Fred Breylinger have come home to roost. Chas. Rand, E. Z. Christiansen has been to lodge one time more than you this past year. Give me a match so I can light my pipe and dream some more."

The Masonic Year 1939 brought the first break in the line of La Brea's Past Masters, when on February 7, 1939, Zellner Oaks Hart, P.M., met an untimely death as the result of an unfortunate accident. The funeral services were conducted by La Brea Lodge.

#### LIFE

"Fleeting as were the dreams of old,  
Remembered like a tale that's told,  
We pass away," —Longfellow

During the year, a vacancy occurred in the officers corps and our Senior Steward John Winch resigned and Ray Smith, Junior Steward, advanced one station, and the lodge's Treasurer, George W. Burch, Jr., was appointed Junior Steward. Edwin L. Kirk was appointed to the office of Treasurer.

## ANNUAL MUSTER

There does not appear to be any recorded proceedings regarding the Annual Muster, other than the Secretary's Records, but we do recall that we were again honored by the presence of P.G.M. Dr. Sam Burke, P.G.M. John Stewart Ross, Worshipful Past Grand Orator Ellsworth Meyer, (who became Grand Master in 1950) Worshipful Thomas E. Dille, our new Inspector of the 78th Masonic District, having been appointed to take the place of Bill Wheeling, who in turn was elevated by Grand Lodge to its Board of Control), and the soap box specialist, Lee T. Mullen, who, lest you have forgotten, was our first Inspector, and in fact to date we have had only two Inspectors, Lee T. Mullen and our own Wm. T. Wheeling.

Before closing, we should point out that in addition to the billiard room, Wendell Harvey completed plans with the owner of the lodge building to enlarge the banquet room, and which project was completed in the following year by our own Bob Robertson.

As a final paragraph to this Masonic year chapter it can very well be stated that the leadership that was provided by Wendell during his year as Master was inspired by the conviction that one of the principal benefits to be derived from Masonic membership is to be found in the actual association of Masons in their regular meetings. He was convinced that not only must a Lodge provide Masonic education but it must provide Masons with the opportunity to enjoy special events that are of interest in their daily lives, in a few words to quote Wendell "Why should the meetings of a Masonic Lodge be anything else but interesting?" the study of Free Masonry is of course always interesting but why cannot daily events of special importance be brought to the meetings of Masons as well as to the meetings of other organizations other than masons? He was convinced that attendance would build if both were provided for LaBrea and the attendance records during his year certainly proved his theory to be well founded. Many interesting special events were provided and the interest of the members in them was evidenced by their attendance. "In the association of Masons one with the other is to be found the benefits from Masonic membership."

Finis.



Well, it is about time to burst forth with a bit of poetry, so the following was borrowed:

"Beware the deadly sitting habit!  
Or if you sit, be like the rabbit,  
Who keepeth ever on the jump  
By springs concealed within his rump.  
Man was not made to sit a-trance  
And press and press and press his pants,  
But rather with an open mind,  
To circulate among his kind.  
And so, my son, beware the snare  
That lurks beneath the easy chair,  
To go like hell, it has been found,  
Both feet must be upon the ground."

Whenever we fall short or are in need of additional information for the Lodge History, we reach into the Archives of the Lodge and come up with one of C. B. Goodridge's poems, and one entitled, "I am your Lodge" is particularly appropriate at this point.

### I AM YOUR LODGE

"I am the backbone of the Nation, the mainstay of the community,—why? because the President of these United States, Franklin D. Roosevelt, is a member; and Masonic principles are conspicuous in his governing. . . .

I am one of the most valued assets of a member, being a monument of achievement, a symbol of stability, and a haven of rest for the membership. . . .

I encourage sincerity of purpose, permanency of minds, builded, an incentive to systematic and economic living, making me the salvation of my people. . . .

I am the incubator of Love and Faith, a warehouse of Charity and happiness. . . .

I furnish entertainment to my members, and harbor life's most treasured hours of recreation; I am one of the most coveted of possessions. . . .

My environment moulds characters of men, giving them untold hours of pleasurable reminiscence of social and Masonic contacts in years to come. . . .

Millions claim title to me; I am available to all good men, worthy and true. If I seem to exact sacrifice from members in payment of my material value, then I promise to repay each inspired effort tenfold. . . .

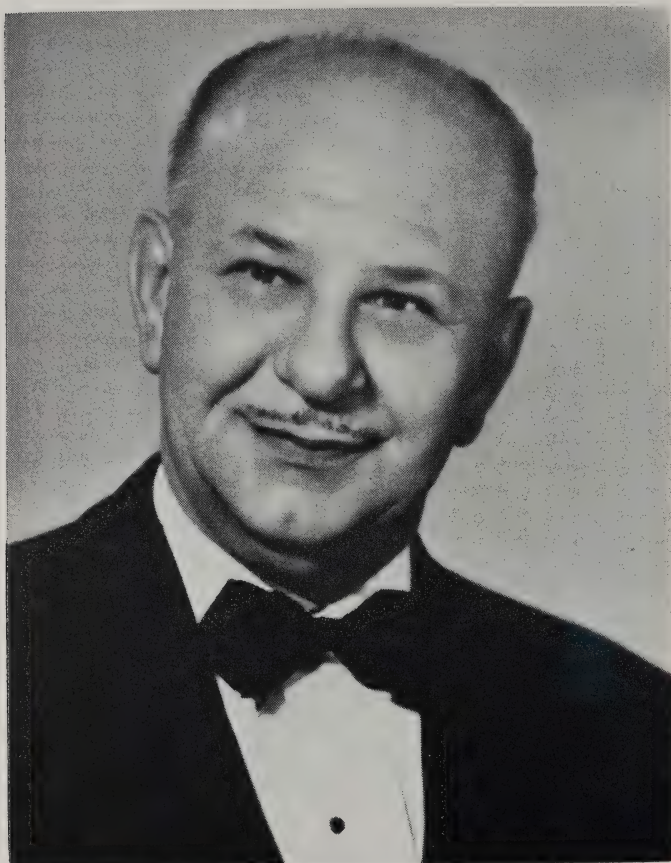
Membership—regular attendance—interest, is the only key to my treasure chest, and I cannot be bargained for personal gain without that interest. . . .

Surround me with your presence, and I become a "Haven on Earth," for I am the fulfillment of man's inborn desire. . . .

I AM YOUR LODGE. . . .

Cee Bee Gee."





GEORGE F. MEITNER  
Worshipful Master  
1940

## Chapter XIV

The year 1940, as is true of each Masonic Year, had its own, individual problems, but with George F. Meitner, a Certified Public Accountant, at the helm, all such problems were taken in stride.

While George F. Meitner, who was born in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and the only child, was not born a "pencil pusher," yet as a baby he had more ways of saying "no" than are found in Noah Webster's Dictionary, be it abridged or unabridged. To secure any information from George regarding his personal life, is like moving the rock of Gibraltar—it just isn't done. Hence, we have had to compile his biography the best we could.

It appears that George was quite a student and at an early age he demonstrated a marked ability to say "no," and this marked him as a potential accountant. Following his graduation from high school, George attended and received his accounting degree from Marquette University in Wisconsin. Shortly thereafter, he married Evelyn and they soon migrated to California.

After practicing his accounting profession for some time, George successfully passed the California Certified Public Accountancy examination and he immediately hung out his shingle. For a time he was supervising accountant for Clifford F. Reid & Co., a large developer of real estate. Brothers David M. Evans, Master in 1938, and James Allen were also associated with this firm.

George and Evelyn had one child, a daughter, Marilyn Meitner, who a few years ago graduated from the University of California at Berkeley and has now married and resides in Seattle, Washington.

George had more than his share of illness in his family, for his good wife, Evelyn, after many years in a sanitarium, passed away. George, after struggling to be both father and mother to his daughter, finally married again. This time to Bessie.

For some years, Ted A. Heinold, Master in 1934, and the one and only Lloyd H. Fruehling, Secretary Emeritus of La Brea Lodge, were associated with George in the accounting business. Following his tenure as Master, George moved his office to San Diego, California, and still has his office there.



### 12TH INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS (CLOSED)

The Annual Installation of officers to serve La Brea Lodge for the ensuing Masonic Year of 1940, was held in the lodge room, on December 12, 1939. The meeting, as in the case of the Masonic Year 1939, was closed. Our "inimitable" Worshipful Lee T. Mullen, Inspector Emeritus, served as Installing Officer, and our own Wm. T. Wheeling, Inspector, who in later years became Inspector Emeritus, performed as Master of Ceremonies.

The corps of officers elected and appointed were installed in due form as follows:

George F. Meitner . . . . .	Worshipful Master
John W. Swank . . . . .	Senior Warden
Walter E. Robertson . . . . .	Junior Warden
Hearst J. Ross . . . . .	Treasurer
Chas. D. Bayles . . . . .	Secretary
William James Mann . . . . .	Chaplain
Frank M. Merrill . . . . .	Senior Deacon
Ray S. Smith . . . . .	Junior Deacon
Chas. F. Lavery . . . . .	Marshal
George W. Burch, Jr. . . . .	Senior Steward
Edwin L. Kirk . . . . .	Junior Steward
Leland J. Ervin . . . . .	Tiler

New officers added to the roll were Charles F. Lavery, Marshal, and Leland J. Ervin, Tiler, all other officers being advanced one station, with the exception of Hearst J. Ross, who became Treasurer in the place and stead of Edwin L. Kirk, who was appointed Junior Steward. The retiring Junior Past Master Wendell J. Harvey was presented with a diamond ring and Mrs. Harvey was presented with an appropriate gift.

The Board of Trustees consisted of Jo D. Hurd, Chairman, who was ably assisted by D. M. Evans and W. J. Harvey. (NOTE: Will someone please tell me, what is the function of the Board of Trustees in La Brea Lodge, as their services have never been called upon.)

During the year the following were elected and those with an asterisk before their names were raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason:

- Lee, W. Douglas
- \*McDonald, Lawrence R.
- \*Allison, Charles J.
- \*Jeffery, Charles A.
- \*Schlegel, Karl S.
- \*Stevenson, R. Everette
- \*Hauner, John F.
- \*Wilson, William F.

Also, Brother Joseph Michalek was elected by affiliation.

In World War II, Brother John F. Hauner was taken prisoner by the Japanese at Wake Island, and it was not until the end of the war and the capitulation of the Japanese that he was released.

During the year, a joint council of members of La Brea Lodge, No. 650, and Henry Knox, No. 662, took unto itself the sponsorship of Los Angeles Chapter of the Order of De Molay, and this sponsorship continued for a number of years. I recall that Wendell Harvey and George Burch were active. Incidentally, Doctor von KleinSmid, President Emeritus of the University of Southern California, was on the original council of Los Angeles Chapter. In still more recent years, some of La Brea's younger members, and some not so young, have been active in the Council of Lawrence C. Kelley Chapter of De Molay, such as V. A. Bradfield, Hugh N. Cameron, Francis C. Ford and Lloyd Laumann. La Brea Lodge has on its membership several former members of De Molay, but the only name that occurs to me at this time



is Jimmie Mann, and in fact, if my memory does not fail me, he was an early day member of Los Angeles Chapter.

Commencing with this year, Charles D. Bayles doubled in harness as the Lodge Secretary and Editor of the Diplodocus.

### OUR NEW HOME

The modernization program, which started during the preceding year, of our lodge quarters on the second floor of the structure on the southeast corner of Wilshire and La Brea Avenue, was completed and our "new home" dedicated. It is fitting that a few notables, who honored us by their presence on our Dedication Night of March 5, 1940, be recorded as being present, and the following are listed on our Visitor's Roll as this was also our Stated Meeting:

M. W. John Stewart Ross, P.G.M., State of California; M. W. John Klarquis, Grand Pursuivant, Grand Lodge of California; Dr. Ernest Bashor, Chairman, Masonic Endowment Board; Brother Henry Richmond, manager of the famed Midnight Mission; Brother Thomas A. Dille, P.M., Inspector 78th Masonic District, Earl Thaxter, Secretary, Masonic Board of Relief; Brother Jack Work, manager Masonic Employment Service; Brother George Cushman, P.M., Mount Olive Lodge, and President Masters' and Wardens' Association.

Included in the honored guests of the evening were five charter members of La Brea Lodge, William T. Wheeling, P.M. and Inspector Emeritus; William H. Parcels, P.M.; Edwin J. Meister, Harold C. Hall and Fred P. Lowe.

As these quarters no longer exist it will be of interest to some and bring back memories to others if we briefly describe "Our New Home," as it existed in 1940. From the new, attractively-constructed entrance, with the Masonic Symbol standing out in bold relief against a background of Light—to the well planned "Galley"—kitchen to you "land lubbers," our present commodious quarters bespeak on every hand the well-laid plans of Master and Builder. The lodge rooms are now well lighted and air conditioned; the furnishings and decorations are harmonious and in keeping with the tenets of our Order. The banquet room and kitchen provide adequate facilities to accommodate two hundred persons, while a stage at the North end permits suitable arrangement for the entertainment. The building committee which brought about this needed improvement comprised Wendell J. Harvey, Chairman, C. B. Goodridge, Lloyd Fruehling, George W. Burch, Jr., John W. Swank and Earl W. Wells, M.D.

The lodge Secretary, in his dual capacity as the Editor of the Diplodocus, reported on lodge activities under the by-line "The Secretary's Column," and revealed the following "factual" and "fictional" information:

"Forthcoming events cast their shadows before us. 'Dedication Night' and 'House Warming Party' are highlights for the month of March.

"Committee Reports passing over the Secretary's desk show great activity on the part of chairmen and members.

"A bravo boutonniere to Lloyd Fruehling, Secretary 'Enormous' (no, this is not a mistake in spelling, but is what the man said in speaking of Lloyd) for disseminating highly interesting literature on the workings of the Order.

"The La Brea Lodge billiard team, consisting of Past Masters Hurd, Goodridge, Evans, Parcels and Harvey, is staging weekly tryouts for 1940 Olympics.

"All officers of the lodge—past and present—who received keys to lodge rooms from Past Master Wendell J. Harvey—turn in your keys to our Junior Past Master—and your name will be put on a list. (Note: I wonder what list.)

"The membership venerates Brother Oliver A. Bourke, our senior member. 'Age sits with decent grace upon his visage and worthily becomes his silver locks, who wears the marks of years well spent, of virtue, truth well tried, and wise experience.'

"Our Junior Member Brother Chester A. Nowak, like our Senior Member Brother Burke, claims the month of July for his natal day. There is, however, a "March of Time" between the respective birthdays. Brother Nowak is a "War Baby," staging his entrance into this vale of tears July 21, 1917. Brother Burke is senior to Brother Nowak by exactly 57 years and 7 days.

Past Master (now Captain) William H. Parcels, U.S.N.R., entertained at tea (that is what the man called it) for Brothers Meitner, Fruehling, Bayles and Huefe, on February 6. Brother Parcels gave an interesting talk on the subject: "# % ¢ & \* \* \*," or "Highlights on the Situation in the Far East."

This interesting meeting was marred by the sudden death of our beloved Brother Walter S. Coen, at San Bernardino, California.

Among the humorous squibs appearing on the Diplodocus was the following:

Harold Wakefield—"I think I'll run my wife for Congresswoman."

George Burch—"Why?"

Harold Wakefield—"Because she's so good at introducing bills into the House."

The year of 1940, and during World War II, tested and tried the souls of men, but out of it all there comes to the surface the beauty of a man's soul, and the handiwork of the Creator. The Diplodocus, in one of its issues, reprinted a letter written by an unnamed British aviator of the Royal Air Force to his mother. His letter to his mother bespeaks the man:

"Dearest Mother: Though I feel no premonition at all, events are moving rapidly, and I have instructed that this letter be forwarded to you should I fail to return from one of the raids which we shall shortly be called upon to undertake. You must hope on for a month, but at the end of that time you must accept the fact that I have handed my task over to the extremely capable hands of my comrades of the Royal Air Force, as so many splendid fellows have already done.

First, it will comfort you to know that my role in this war has been of the greatest importance. Our patrols far out over the North Sea have helped to keep the trade routes clear for our convoys and supply ships, and on one occasion, our information was instrumental in saving the lives of the men in a crippled lighthouse relief ship. Though it will be difficult for you, you will disappoint me if you do not at least try to accept the facts dispassionately, for I shall have done my duty to the utmost of my ability. No man can do more and no one calling himself a man, could do less.

I have always admired your amazing courage in the face of continual setbacks; in the way you have given me as good an education and background as anyone in the country; and have always kept up appearances without ever losing faith in the future. My death would not mean that your struggle

has been in vain. Far from it. It means that your sacrifice is as great as mine. Those who serve England must expect nothing from her; we debase ourselves if we regard our country as merely a place in which to eat and sleep." Your ever loving son.

#### LA BREA'S ANNUAL MUSTER

Another milestone in the life of our lodge was appropriately observed on Tuesday, October 22nd, 1950. Some faces were absent from our group—some, in fact, who will continue to be absent throughout the years to come. But the memory of our departed brothers is with us always. We pay tribute to that memory for the things they have contributed. We were honored with the presence of Dr. Sam Burke, P.G.M. of the State of California. Brother Burke's deep sincerity, love for his fellowman, and his evident attachment to Masonry was beautifully illustrated by a timely and well delivered message.

Brother Lee T. Mullen, Inspector Emeritus, and affectionately known as "the Grandfather of La Brea Lodge," contributed his usual valued presence, and presented to every member, a copy of his famous poem, "The Gang at Old La Br'a." We are convinced that this poem should form a permanent part of the history of La Brea Lodge, and accordingly we are causing the context thereof to be printed in full:

#### THE GANG AT OLD LA BR'A

By LEE T. MULLEN

Inspector Emeritus

March 5, 1940

As one who mulls at evening o'er the Diplodocus, all alone,  
And thinks about the doings of the friends that he has known,  
So I thumb the leaves of Memory, 'til, in shadowy array,  
I see the smiling features of the gang at Old La Br'a.

'Tis a pleasing recol'ection—for brotherly thoughts that start  
Into being are like perfume from the blossoms of the heart.  
Just to dream the old dreams over—believe me, when I say  
I'll let my fancies wander with the gang at Old La Br'a.

In fact, to speak in earnest. I believe 'twill add some charm  
To flavor the Good a trifle with a little spice of Harm,  
For I find an extra wallop, particularly on this day.  
That makes me drink the deeper to the gang at Old La Br'a.

'Twas on a night in the month of May, 'way back in '26,  
When a then unborn muster was called, some arrangements to fix,  
For a Masonic Lodge to be formed, composed of good men and true,  
Who answered the summons that evening their fraternal vows to renew!

They met in a cold, bare room, at the end of a long flight of stairs,  
In true pioneer style—if you must know—there were no tables or chairs.  
They greeted each other cordially and, as they heard the three  
sharp knocks,  
They gently parked the carcass—on the end of a cracker-box!



Sans all the modern conveniences they proceeded to call the roll,  
And from each good member present they cheerfully exacted a toll.  
You will find recorded in the Minutes the names of those who  
were pledged  
For twenty-five bucks on the barrel-head; and there was nary a  
man who hedged!

Thus you have a brief history of a Masonic Lodge begun  
By those men who would, in the future, earn their places in the sun.  
And, by the way, let it be here recorded, as a part of this narration,  
That our grand old pal, George Jones, gave the boys their Dispensation.

And of all that gang of good fellows there should certainly be a few,  
Whose names I might casually mention, as being of interest to you.  
'Tis true they are modest and retiring; of applause we know they  
seek none,

But a man is a man for a' that and they all rate the greeting—well done!

Listed in orderly rotation, and in accordance with the alphabet,  
Are Allen and Burton and Barker, and Past Master Jay Burnett.  
Then follow Barton, Caillet and Fruehling, and my good friend  
Harold Hall:

These men were in there clicking, and they were always subject to call.

And so were Haslett and Holmes and Horne; and surely you must know  
Of your first Junior Deacon, Phil Kalech, and your Tiler Fred P. Lowe.  
To say nothing of "Money Bags" Meister, your Treasurer, and  
Wedding and Russel Ray,  
And the infallible Williams, First and Second, of whom I shall  
have more to say.

Number One on the list elected, to rule and govern your clan,  
Was "tall, dark and handsome;" yea, brother, there was a man!  
The source of unfailing wisdom, to those who for knowledge did thirst,  
Was none other than W. T. Wheeling, who was installed William  
the First.

And then, from the sands of El Centro, there came with a blustery rush  
A Sergeant guy with blood in his eye—him they called "Wrinklemush."  
And when William the First became a P.M., it was to Bill Parcels  
you beckoned,  
And that auburn-haired wonder, who brooked no blunder, forthwith  
became William the Second.

Still thumbing the leaves of Memory, down through the years we forge,  
Finding worthy successors to "The Williams" in Dave and Wendell  
and George.

And we toast the old Diplodocus and him that's called Cee Bee Gee  
For the many kindly greetings he has bestowed upon you and me.

And while we sing the praises of this and that old timer,  
Let us pay our humble respects to none other than Virgil the Shimer.  
And while on matters personal, we add a friendly word—  
Greetings and salutations to Lloyd and Ted and modest Jo d'Hurd.

And for those who traveled long since to their Home beyond the skies,  
 No more the fraternal greetings; no more the smiling eyes.  
 Silently you took your departure and silently farewells were said.  
 For you, my brothers, for you, in benediction, we humbly bow our head.

And for those of you, my brothers, of whom I have made no mention,  
 Don't charge it up against me, because, honestly it wasn't my intention.  
 For all those things you have done—to you appreciation is tendered,  
 For yours is the real joy that must come of the knowledge of  
 service well rendered.

And now, having conned at length, o'er the Diplodocus all alone,  
 And mused to my heart's content on the friends that I have known,  
 I have closed tight the Book of Memory; gone is the shadowy array,  
 As I greet you the living presence of the gang at Old La Br'a.



### PAST MASTERS' NIGHT

November 26, 1940

Another year having just about run its course, the Worshipful Master called the Past Masters together on November 26, 1940, to do the honors on "Past Masters' Night." We are quite certain that the perfection of this ritualistic work, was only exceeded by their handsome appearances.

The Past Masters present, the year in which they were Master and the chairs occupied by them, follows:

Wm. T. Wheeling, P.M., 1926-27, Worshipful Master;  
 Theo A. Heinold, P.M., 1934, Senior Warden;  
 Wm. H. Parcels, P.M., 1928, Junior Warden;  
 W. Lloyd Laumann, P.M., 1936, Senior Deacon;  
 Jo D. Hurd, P.M., 1937, Junior Deacon;  
 David M. Evans, P.M., 1938, Senior Steward;  
 Wendell J. Harvey, P.M., 1939, Junior Steward.



### "I BELIEVE IN MY LODGE

BECAUSE

I believe in it, mind and body, heart and soul.

BECAUSE

I am learning more about Masonic teachings.

BECAUSE

I believe in its constructive ideas, fraternally and socially.

BECAUSE

I believe in men who are honorable, clean cut and interesting.

BECAUSE

I can be of real personal service, that I can contribute to my fellow beings spiritually and materially.

BECAUSE

I believe my brothers need what I have to offer and what I can give them."



JOHN WILLIAM SWANK  
Worshipful Master  
1941



## Chapter XV

John William Swank, as he was christened, soon became known as John W. Swank, but we more affectionately refer to him as just "John."

John was born on July 26, 1898, at Lamar, Missouri, being one of two children. John, being an exceedingly modest fellow, for reasons best known to himself has failed to give us any facts or fiction regarding his youth, and we have met with the same lack of success in securing facts regarding his adult escapades, but probably he had acted on the advice of counsel. Knowing John as we do, the only vice that we know of is that he is an A-1 crap shooter, and his hobby outside of his devotion to his lodge, is that of being a pistol marksman, and he has a collection of pipes.

On February 11, 1933, John married Mary Louise Drummond; what! you have never heard of her? But you know her as Molly.

John tells us that at various periods of his life he has lived at Portland, Oregon; Kansas City, Missouri; Chicago, Illinois; Los Angeles and environs.

John has been employed as an engineer on the executive engineer's staff of Southern California Edison Company with which company he has been employed for over 29 years. Besides having served La Brea Lodge as its Secretary for over twelve years, he is a member of the Los Angeles Scottish Rite Bodies, Al Malaikah Shrine Temple, past President of Southern California Edison Company Masonic Club, President in 1953-54 of the Masonic Secretaries Association of Southern California, and is active in Scottish Rite play production work, having recently portrayed the character of George Washington in "Architects of Freedom." He is a veteran of World War I, and after graduating from Los Angeles High School, attended the University of Southern California for two years.



### NEW OFFICERS INSTALLED

The fifteenth annual installation of officers of La Brea Lodge for the Masonic Year 1941 was held on Tuesday evening, December 17, 1940, with a fine representation of members and friends who came in appreciation of two of the finest men there are in this lodge—one an outgoing Master, the other an incoming Master. To Brother George we say, "Well done, good and faithful servant." To Brother John, "You follow in the footsteps of one who has set an example hard to follow." The installation was closed and many of John Swank's friends from the Southern California Edison Masonic Club honored him by their presence. The following corps of officers was installed in due form:

John W. Swank . . . . .	Worshipful Master
Walter E. Robertson . . . . .	Senior Warden
Frank F. Merrill . . . . .	Junior Warden
Dean M. Carroll . . . . .	Treasurer

Theodore A. Heinold . . . . .	Secretary
Harold C. Hall . . . . .	Chaplain
Ray S. Smith . . . . .	Senior Deacon
George W. Burch, Jr. . . . .	Junior Deacon
Karl S. Schlegel . . . . .	Marshal
Charles F. Lavery . . . . .	Senior Steward
Russell Lee . . . . .	Junior Steward
William E. Jones . . . . .	Tiler

You will note that there are several new officers; Dean M. Carroll, Treasurer, Theodore A. Heinold, Secretary (being the third Secretary for La Brea Lodge); Harold C. Hall, Chaplain, and also a charter member, Karl S. Schlegel, Marshal; Russell Lee, Junior Steward, and William E. Jones, Tiler, who continuously occupied this station until his death on May 18, 1950.

The job of installing officers was very capably handled by Lee T. Mullen, assisted by Wm. T. Wheeling, who acted as Master of Ceremonies. George F. Meitner was presented with a beautiful diamond Past Master's ring.

The competent Board of Trustees was comprised of David M. Evans, Chairman; W. J. Harvey and George F. Meitner.

The following members were either elected or raised (those with an asterisk before their names were raised) during the year:

- \*Lowell, Joseph M.
- \*Perry, Ben J.
- \*Smith, Gordon N.
- \*Smith, Kenneth A.
- \*Thompson, Raymond S.
- \*Lee, Douglas W.

One brother affiliated during the year from another Masonic Lodge:  
Meier, Harold M.

During the year, the lodge, by appropriate action, established the practice, which has been followed in succeeding years, of presenting to each newly raised member at the time he receives his Third Degree, a miniature trowel, bearing a facsimile of the seal of our lodge. The first two members so receiving these beautiful trowels were William Douglas Lee and Ben Jetson Perry (Ben to you). The purpose of presenting a trowel, which is to be permanently retained by the newly raised brother is, of course, to present to him an emblem which will continually remind him that he should spread the cement of brotherly love and affection in order that no disharmonious contention or dissension may exist among us.

One of the issues of the Diplodocus during 1941 contained an interesting article, entitled "Journey of an Apprentice," and we believe that it is of sufficient general interest to be recorded as a part of our lodge history:

"I am come a poor-fellow man walking a lonely road, foot-sore and weary, hoodwinked by the darkness of the world, and held by a tether to the earth, as a child to its mother. Freeborn yet not free, save in my will to seek the light, feebly I grope my way, oppressed by dread. I fear to go, yet dare not stay, lest I die without ever having lived. Through scenes unknown I journey in a shadow-land, losing my way but for the guidance of a fellow man.

"You ask what it is I seek to know, not having learned the import of my days and years, whence I came bound. A pilgrim, I humbly follow whither I am led, trusting a hand to lead me in a way I know not, nor can I see. Yet I am troubled by a dim dream of a city four-square, and a temple vast and white, in which wanderers are welcome and seekers find the light. Lead me where I seek to go, and in wisdom show the way.

"My trust is in God—in God over all, within all, everywhere and everlasting, the Master Builder of a city with great foundations, in whose great hand we stand. Other foundations no man can lay other than in His righteousness. Eternal God: guide me through this night, guard me with Thy might, and lead me step by step into the light.

"I came to seek the good that makes us men and the love that makes us brothers; to build my life on simple faith and the eternal law of right to learn the truth which none may learn for another and no one may learn alone; to do justly by the square, to walk uprightly upon the level by the plumb, within the compass of brotherly love, relief and truth—a brother and a builder in love of man and the service of God." This article, indeed, reveals the soul of man in Christian meditation.



#### PAST MASTERS' NIGHT

Tuesday, September 23, 1941, by Proclamation of the Worshipful Master, was set aside as Past Masters' Night. In the words of Emerson, "our knowledge is the amassed thought and experience of innumerable minds." So La Brea Lodge, in a large part, is what it is as a result of those who have been our leaders in the past; it will develop further as a result of those who will contribute to its welfare in the years to come. The Past Masters, following their usual form, performed their work in an excellent and proficient manner.



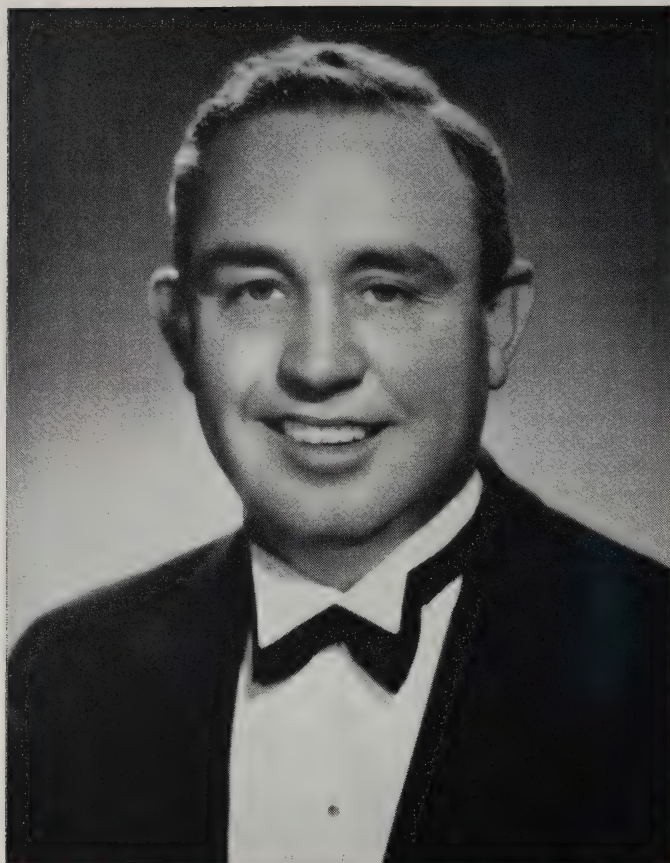
#### FIFTEENTH ANNUAL MUSTER

La Brea's Fifteenth Annual Muster was held on Tuesday evening, October 28, 1941. Approximately one hundred were present. Some were absent, some will continue to be absent throughout the years to come.

Following the Sacred Roll Call by the Secretary, the time honored custom of calling of roll of members of La Brea Lodge was performed by Ted Heinold. The names of Past Grand Master Sam Burke and Inspector Emeritus Lee T. Mullen were included because an Annual Muster really wouldn't be an Annual Muster unless they were present.

Past Masters Russell Ray, Ted Heinold, C. B. Goodridge, Lloyd Laumann, Jo Hurd, Wendell Harvey and George Meitner, together with our Secretary Emeritus Lloyd Fruehling, answered in person. Senior Past Master Bill Wheeling was unable to be present to our sorrow and we know to his. Bill Parcels, according to last reports, was in the North Atlantic serving Uncle Sam as naval lieutenant senior grade. Bill Barker was in Visalia and sent his regrets. Dr. Jay Burnett is now a resident of Ojai. We did not hear from Bill Wedding. Dave Evans was called east just before Annual Muster and expressed his regrets in a most sincerely worded letter at missing the first Annual Muster since he was raised.

Thus we close another chapter in the History of La Brea Lodge, No. 650, F. & A. M.



WALTER ELLIS ROBERTSON  
Worshipful Master  
1942



## Chapter XVI

Walter Ellis Robertson, so his parents called him, but in the business world he is known as W. E. Robertson, and to his Masonic brothers and innumerable friends he is just "Bob," gave early indications that he would develop into a successful builder in later years, for he was born at Hazlehurst, Mississippi, the lumber country, on September 26, 1901, the son of a country doctor and one of seven children. Having a Christian mother, whose philosophy it was "spare the rod and spoil the child," we will take notice of the fact that none of the children was spoiled. Bob is a shining example of what a person can do if he makes up his mind to accomplish something by hard effort, for he has developed himself into one of the largest builders in the West, and I can well remember the day when Bob started business with a hammer and a saw, and so far as I know, these may have been borrowed.

When Bob came to California as a youth, the whole Robertson clan followed. First, his brother John, then his brother Noel and finally, his youngest brother Harley. Both Noel and Harley are members of La Brea Lodge.

Bob's wife, Pearl, is well known to many of us and he has one daughter, June Coburn, whose husband, Bob Coburn, has received his entered apprentice degree in La Brea Lodge. Like most P.M.s, Bob is a grandfather.

Bob belongs to many organizations, a few being Sciots (he was formerly the Toparch thereof), La Brea Masonic Lodge, Los Angeles Scottish Rite Bodies, Al Malaikah Shrine, an active member of the Los Angeles Shrine Patrol, Southern California Contractors Association, major in the Civil Air Patrol, a licensed private airplane pilot, and in World War II, he was a Zone Warden of the Civilian Defense in Los Angeles, California.

Bob used to say of himself that his mother frequently philosophized that if he did not restrain his temper, he would be hung before he was 21 years of age, and the fact that he is still alive and kicking is ample proof that he exercised proper control.



### INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS

The annual installation of officers of La Brea Lodge was held Tuesday, December 16, 1951, at La Brea Lodge, in open form, and in spite of the possibility of "blackouts," there was a goodly number in attendance. The reference to "blackouts," should bring back memories to many, as we were then in the midst of World War II, and military controls had been partially invoked.

Under the supervision of Lee T. Mullen, as installing officer, and Wm. T.

Wheeling, as Master of Ceremonies, the recently elected and chosen officers were installed in due form:

Walter E. Robertson . . . . .	Worshipful Master
Frank F. Merrill . . . . .	Senior Warden
Ray S. Smith . . . . .	Junior Warden
Ed J. Meister . . . . .	Treasurer
Ted A. Heinold . . . . .	Secretary
Karl S. Schlegel . . . . .	Chaplain
George W. Burch, Jr. . . . .	Senior Deacon
Charles F. Laverty . . . . .	Junior Deacon
Arthur H. Schlanert . . . . .	Marshal
Russell Lee . . . . .	Senior Steward
Anton G. Hookanson . . . . .	Junior Steward
William E. Jones . . . . .	Tiler

Ed J. Meister, who for so many years has served the lodge so faithfully in many capacities, was installed as Treasurer, Arthur H. Schlanert as Marshal, and Anton G. Hookanson made his first official appearance as Junior Steward.

The Board of Trustees was headed by W. J. Harvey, ably assisted by George F. Meitner and John W. Swank.

Ray Smith was appointed Editor of the Diplodocus.

Bill Wheeling presented to John Swank a Past Master's ring, a gift from members of La Brea Lodge. Ted Heinold presented John with a gold certificate of life membership in Grand Lodge of California and Molly Swank, wife of our Junior Past Master, was presented with an appropriate gift from the lodge in token of the high esteem in which she was held.

During the year the following were elected and those with an asterisk before their names were raised:

- Adams, Jack M.
- \*Anderson, T. Jerry
- Bowersmith, John A.
- \*Robertson, Harley S. (brother of Bob Robertson)
- \*Prouex, Thomas J.

This was indeed a critical year, not only for Masonry in general, but La Brea in particular, as 1942 was a critical war year. It was so critical that the responsible officers gave considerable thought to the possible closing of Masonic lodges, at least those which meet at night, but after mature deliberation it was determined that we should carry on the best we could, assisting wherever possible. Many of our members were in the armed forces, but we who were here at home actively participated in civilian defense war efforts. Your Worshipful Master, besides carrying on an active and growing contracting business, was a zone leader in the Los Angeles Civilian Defense organization and a Civil Air Patrol officer. Our Senior Deacon worked in the daytime as an attorney and spent the rest of his waking hours not only as a Civilian Defense Zone Leader but as a Civilian Defense Training officer throughout Los Angeles.

The famous blackout happened one night, during which there was a considerable artillery barrage, and if memory does not fail me, while a degree was being conferred, and there were, indeed, many anxious moments until the "all clear" signal was given.

The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of California, by proclamation of its Grand Master, under date of December 16, 1941, issued the following proclamation:

"To the Brethren of the Jurisdiction:

The Axis powers have again acted with the treachery and duplicity which have characterized their every move—before and since, their unholy alliance.

Beginning with the invasion of China by the war lords of Japan, and culminating in the infamous attack on Hawaii, honorable practices and customs between nations have been abandoned for the actions of barbarians.

In between China and Hawaii lie the heel-marks of savage beasts, implanting on fair and peaceable lands the temporary imprint of their goose-stepping hordes. The rape of Ethiopia and the stab-in-the-back of France by Mussolini—enslaved Italy;—the assassination of Czechoslovakia, Poland, The Netherlands, Norway, Greece, Jugo-Slavia and many others, by the lust and rapacity of a nation controlled by murderous gangsters.

In between China and Hawaii are incalculable deceits and duplicities,—incredible brutalities and cruelties—deliberate obliteration of civilian's cherished outposts—cunning and fraud practiced upon a world-wide scale,—all perpetrated and put into force by the "Master Race" of the Nazis. Their announced aim, the utter destruction of the "decayed corpse of democracy."

AND NOW THAT THE CHALLENGE HAS BEEN FLUNG—AND IMMEDIATELY ACCEPTED—ALL THE ENERGIES, ALL THE POWER OF OUR DEMOCRACY SO HATED AND CONTEMPTUOUSLY FLAUNTED BY THE "MASTER CLASS" AND THE SAMURAI OF THE WORLD WILL BE MARSHALED TOWARD THE FINAL VICTORY—CERTAIN AND ASSURED.

BUT BETWEEN THIS DAY AND THAT CERTAIN DAY OF THE FUTURE WHEN THE FORCES OF DEMOCRACY THROW OPEN THE GATE OF LIBERATION FOR ALL MANKIND, MUCH MUST BE DONE. IT SHALL BE OUR PROUD AND EAGER DUTY, BOTH AS AMERICANS AND AS MASONS, TO DON THE GARMENTS OF WORK, OF SACRIFICE AND OF IRON DETERMINATION.

Behind our Commander-in-Chief in the solid ranks of a united and virile nation, it has become our consecrated duty to carry out his orders and to allow nothing to interfere with our sacred obligations as citizens and as Masons.

In furtherance of these obligations, I urge every craftsmen residing within the jurisdiction to render that service for God and country, and to rededicate themselves to the high principles and purposes of our government. In all things—in every action, I strongly urge that staunchness of spirit, that eagerness to serve, that has characterized every generation of Americans from the birth of the Revolution to the present day.

Obey—implicitly, the orders of those in command: pursue—religiously, the allotted daily tasks; cheerfully and gratefully accept the extra hours imposed by, and dedicated to, the war effort; volunteer, whenever and wherever possible, extra service to the national cause, and finally—contribute, to the limit of ability and fortune, to the programs reflecting the national will to complete victory.

This is my earnest prayer and prediction: that Masons of the jurisdiction will not be found wanting during the national crisis and that they will further prove, as in the years past, their complete realization and appreciation of the sacred privileges of citizenship.

Our freedom, together with that of the entire civilized world, depends upon our united efforts. I have every confidence in the outcome and in the patriotic allegiance of my fellow Craftsmen of California.

Frank M. Smith  
Grand Master

Dated at San Francisco, California,  
December 16, 1941

Attest:

Lloyd E. Wilson  
Grand Secretary"

This is, indeed, a historical document, expressing as it does, the Mason's creed toward God and country.

In reading the list of names released by the government, during 1942, of those who were on Wake Island when it was taken by the Japs, we find that Brother Fred Hauner, who was employed by a construction company on Wake Island, was among those held in Japan as prisoners of war. Fred came out of this experience, although he had a very trying time.

We do not have a complete list of those serving in World War II, but as of 1942 at least, we find the following were in service:

Wm. H. Parcels, P.M.	Gordon Smith
Martin Luther Thomas	Laurence R. McDonald
Edward J. Huefe	Leland J. (Joe) Ervin
Nelson E. Roberts	John Winch
Duncan Caldwell	Jerry Anderson
Eugene Mason	Norman Bennett
Jerome T. Smith	James McBride
Clarence Jacob Brown	James Garrigues
Chester J. Nowak	Harley Robertson
Alfred Lacy	David M. Evans, P.M.

#### PAST MASTER'S NIGHT

In lieu of the Past Masters conferring a Third Degree on a candidate, the Stated Meeting dinner of Tuesday evening, December 1, 1942, was given in honor of La Brea's Past Masters. So far as I know, this is the only time that such an affair has ever been held in the history of La Brea Lodge, but aside from this feature, the evening proved to be a huge success.

#### ANNUAL MUSTER, OUTSTANDING EVENT OF THE YEAR

The most outstanding event of La Brea Lodge during 1942, undoubtedly was the Sixteenth Annual Muster on Tuesday evening, October 27, 1942. There have been musters drawing a larger attendance than the 1942 muster, but none in which the spirit of good fellowship was more in evidence. Among the distinguished guests was Most Worshipful Samuel Burke, Past Grand Master of Masons of California.



According to the Diplodocus, George W. Burch, Jr., observing a worried look on Doc Barck's face, asked him what was his great trouble.

"Well," said Doc, "I've had some questions asked me, and I don't know the answers."

"Okey, Doc, shoot, maybe I can help you."

"Here they are," said Doc.

"Where can a man find a cap for his knee,

Or a key for a lock of his hair;

Or can his eyes be an academy

Just because pupils are there?

Is the crown of his head where gems are found?

Who travels the bridge of his nose?

Does the calf of his leg become hungry at times,

And devour the corn on his toes?

Can the crook of his elbows be sent to jail?

Where's the shade from the palm of his hand?

How does he sharpen his shoulder blades?

I'll be hanged if I understand!"

(By this time George had stopped stuttering and just listened.) "Doc, let's take this up later!"



### SHOOTING THE BULL BY "ISMS"

#### SOCIALISM:

You have two cows and give one to your neighbor.

#### COMMUNISM:

You have two cows; the government takes both and gives you some milk.

#### FASCISM:

You have two cows; the government takes both and sells you some milk.

#### NAZIISM:

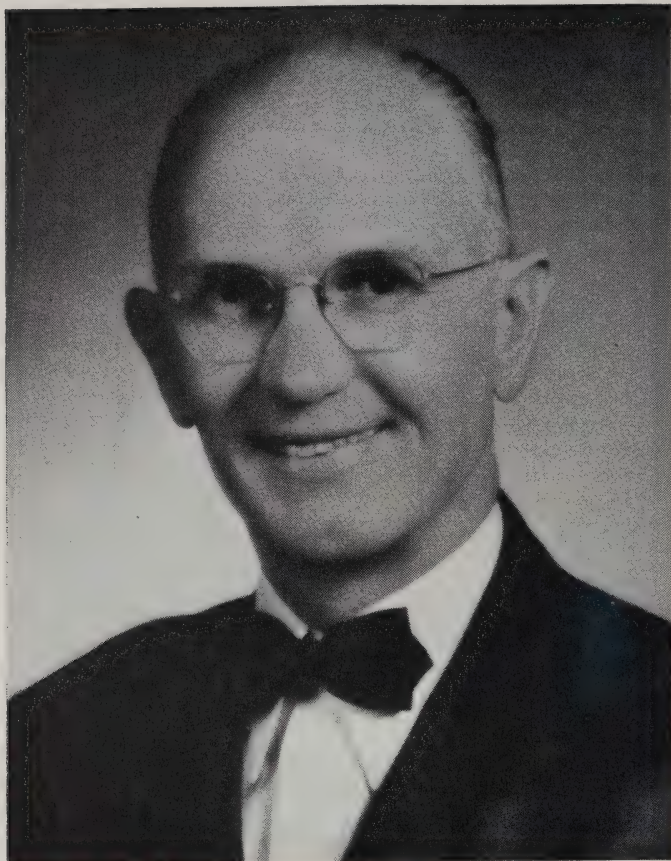
You have two cows; the government takes both and shoots you.

#### NEW DEALISM:

You have two cows; the government buys both, shoots one, milks the other and throws the milk away.

#### CAPITALISM:

You have two cows; you sell one and buy a bull.



FRANK FANNON MERRILL

Worshipful Master

1943

## Chapter XVII

Frank Fannon Merrill, who, according to the Bureau of Vital Statistics, was born on December 20, 1897, at Kearney, Missouri, and he was one of five children. According to our informant, Frank was a handsome baby, or at least the members of the so-called weaker sex claim, and they must be correct, because in his adult years he became and still is the "Beau Brummell" of the Past Masters, that is if you overlook the little matter of a dearth of hair on his cranium (but in this department he has plenty of company).

During his sojourn on this mortal earth, Frank has managed to get around, for at various times we find him living on a farm at Kearney, Missouri, in Long Beach, California; Regina, Saskatchewan, Canada, and Los Angeles, California.

Being an adventurous soul, he peddled his bicycle from Long Beach to Dominguez to see the first aviation meet in the United States in 1911.

He married Marjorie Richards on October 5, 1925, and from this union one child, Richard Lee Merrill, was born. Richard says he wants to become a Special F.B.I. agent. On inquiry, Frank says he will report back as to his potential grandchildren in a few years.

Frank has a vivid memory of a trip to Chinatown with John Swank while attending Grand Lodge during the year he was Master, and before I press them too thoroughly for details, I feel that I should first backtrack over my own activities in this regard, as skeletons have been known to appear at the "darndest" and most unexpected occasions.

Frank and Ray Smith for a goodly number of years have been competing for the title of "beau brummell" of La Brea, but the last time we took a look, Ray was leading by a hair (his one hair on his brass door nob).

Frank worked for a short time for Western Union, Southern Pacific Railway and as assistant motion picture cameraman. In 1921, he took a temporary job with the Standard Oil Company of California, and as of the date of this history he is still with this company, and it begins to look as though he may eventually become a permanent employee. Frank at the present time occupies an executive position with the Oronite Chemical Company, the chemical unit of Standard Oil Company of California.

Frank, as has been true of most of our Past Masters, started at the bottom of the line and by his diligence to Masonry, he advanced over the years through the various stations, and we find that in 1943, he guided the destinies of La Brea Lodge as its Master. It has been said of Frank that he is a gentleman at all times and a judge of many things, all being beautiful, of course. The rest of the P.M.s can only try to emulate him but can never hope to be his equal.

Also, Frank was a veteran of World War I and spent one year in France.

On the evening of Tuesday, December 15, 1942, members of La Brea Lodge, their families and friends assembled in the lodge room to witness

the installation ceremonies, which were conducted by Lee T. Mullen as Installing Officer and Wm. T. Wheeling, as Master of Ceremonies.

The following officers were installed in their respective stations for the ensuing Masonic Year:

Frank Merrill . . . . .	Worshipful Master
Ray S. Smith . . . . .	Senior Warden
George W. Burch, Jr. . . . .	Junior Warden
Edwin L. Kirk . . . . .	Treasurer
John W. Swank . . . . .	Secretary
Arthur H. Schlanert . . . . .	Chaplain
Charles F. Lavery . . . . .	Senior Deacon
Russell Lee . . . . .	Junior Deacon
Ben J. Perry . . . . .	Marshal
Anton G. Hookanson . . . . .	Senior Steward
Karl S. Schlegel . . . . .	Junior Steward
William E. Jones . . . . .	Tiler

Included in this corps of officers, we find that Edwin L. Kirk became Treasurer in the place and stead of Ed J. Meister, John W. Swank became Secretary in the place of Ted A. Heinold, and John has been Secretary ever since 1942, and Ben J. Perry became Marshal, with all other officers advancing one station.

Retiring Junior Past Master Bob Robertson was presented with a Past Master's ring by Brother George Burch, and John Swank presented Brother Bob with a Gold Past Master's Certificate, entitling him to life membership as a member of California Grand Lodge. As a token of the esteem in which she is held by La Brea Lodge, Pearl Robertson was presented with an appropriate gift.

The Board of Trustees was comprised of George F. Meitner, Chairman, John W. Swank and W. E. Robertson.

Frank had a fine year and we note that the following were either elected or raised, and those with an asterisk before their names were raised during the year:

Alson, Charles M.  
 Bernard, Francis J.  
 Brackett, Paul E.  
 \*Bradfield, Vesper A.  
 \*Butterfield, Merrill E.  
 \*Clare, James F.  
 Colby, Herbert L.  
 Evans, Barry  
 Gaertner, L. William  
 Jennings, Don P. R.  
 Odegard, Norman J.  
 \*Pelren, Francis W.  
 \*Luke, Mack C.  
 Thompson, Duane A.  
 \*Adams, Jack M.

Two members from other Masonic Lodges affiliated during the year:

Gregory, Willis L.  
 Smith, William A.



Ben Perry, the baby officer of La Brea Lodge was the party of the second part to a blessed event, as he became the proud father of a second son.

With the advent of this year, January found one more of our members inducted into service with the armed forces of the United States. Karl Schlegel, Junior Steward, was inducted, which made him the 21st member of our lodge to enter the services of our country and allied nations. This is more than ten per cent of our membership.

During the year our kindly and genial Tiler, Wm. E. Jones, was married to Miss Mabel Hicks, and we of La Brea Lodge wished them many years of happiness, but unfortunately, after a few years of happiness, death intervened, and Bill was taken from his wife and La Brea Lodge.

The gasoline shortage became very critical during the year, and it was, indeed, under very trying circumstances that the members and lodge officers were able to carry on with their lodge activities, because most of us did not have sufficient gasoline coupons, for it must be remembered that gasoline was rationed and coupons were issued therefor on the basis of need. Car pooling became very popular and, in fact, it continued for several years.

#### PAST MASTER'S NIGHT SET FOR SEPTEMBER 28TH

September 28th was another successful Past Masters' night, and somehow a goodly number of our members managed to promote sufficient gasoline to attend. On many occasions, our Tiler, Bill Jones, and I am sure this was equally true of others, left the car in the garage and fell back upon busses and streetcars for transportation, not only to lodge but to their respective places of business.

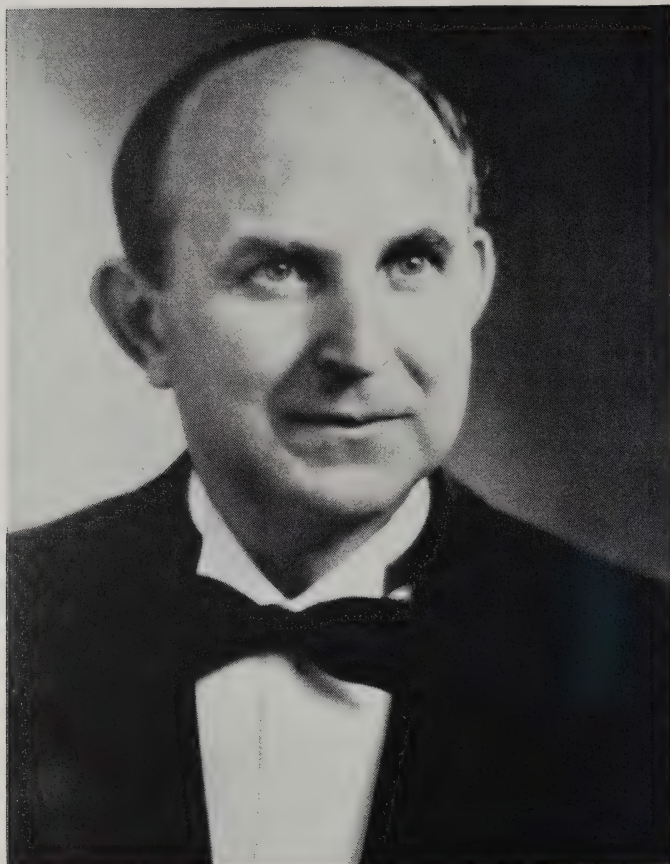
#### ANNUAL MUSTER

On Tuesday evening, October 26, members of La Brea Lodge assembled to commemorate the observance of its Annual Muster, and while many failed to answer the roll call, and many familiar faces were missing, a very inspirational meeting was had. The Stewards under very trying circumstances prepared an excellent repast and they had to stretch the lodge's food coupons, because the lodge as individuals, could only make food purchases by means of food coupons.



Russ Lee is purported to have said:

"Once when I was very young  
I put a worm right on my tongue  
I didn't like the taste a bit  
And so I didn't swallow it  
But gee, it made my mother squirm  
Because she thinks I ate that worm."



RAY SELVESTER SMITH  
Worshipful Master  
1944

## Chapter XVIII

Ray Selvester Smith, so his parents called him, first saw the light of day under date of March 14, 1896, at Orland, Glenn County, California.

Many of you will not recognize the foregoing "Selvester," as we have a "Sylvester Ostrom," (Brother of Past Master Emil Ostrom), on our rolls, but you will readily recognize the name of Ray S. Smith.

Ray certainly has lived (P.S.—there are Past Masters who will vouch for this fact) at many places; besides Orland, we trace his steps to Arbuckle, Knights Landing, Dos Palos, Isleton, Willows, Wheatland, Manteca, Stockton, Anderson, Linden, Fort Bragg, Santa Maria, San Fernando, Redlands, Hemet, Los Angeles, San Marino, all in California (his father was a Methodist preacher), and Dallas, Oregon.

His experiences were those usual to kids. Probably his most exciting "fun" was playing around with boats on the Sacramento river, improvising sails made from gunny sacks, discarded dresses or even boards—all unknown to his father who did not approve of this kind of recreation for a boy of eight or nine years. In fact, he says that many of the "exciting" experiences he recalls from time to time which as a boy he took in stride, makes him shudder a little. For a time his family lived on a farm and most of his vacations were spent on a farm where he "amused" himself with riding, or trying to ride the bulls, cows, calves, colts or even horses—anything that offered competition, so long as his father or mother were not around to "protect" the animals. Baseball was a favorite pastime with Ray and while in high school held down the "hot spot" (third base) and "back-stop" (catcher) positions.

After attending Stockton Normal school at Stockton, Ray was granted an elementary teacher's certificate and for three years taught school in northern California. Leaving that profession in 1918 he went into agricultural contracting, but with the big "bust" which was the aftermath of World War I, financial disaster overtook him along with thousands of others in the same field. He then went into the printing industry and has continued in that field ever since.

Early in life—1915—Ray was married. From this union there were born four children, Lucille Genevieve, Geraldine Rae, Raymond Harry and Betty Jane. Ray heads the list of the grandfathers in our lodge, for we find that there were eleven grandchildren and of these ten are living: Robert, Barry, Billy (deceased) and Raymond Smith; Patricia and Catherine Newton; Connie Griffin; Donald, Daniel, David and Nancy Elizabeth Allie.

Under date of December 25, 1926, Ray married again, his good wife being Ruby Olive (Callender) Smith, better known as Dolly. Jacqueline Kay Smith, a graduate student at the University of Southern California is their only child.

Coming to Los Angeles to start his own business in 1935, Ray acquired a printing plant of moderate size from which has grown the printing firm

known as The Bookman Press, of which he is president and manager. For many years Ray has been active in the Printing Industry Association of Los Angeles and in 1954 was elected to the Board of Directors of the Los Angeles branch of the National Association.

Ray's Masonic activities are well known to us. He was appointed Chaplain by Dave Evans in 1938 and advanced step by step until he became Master in 1944. He is a member of the Los Angeles Scottish Rite Bodies, Al Malaikah Temple, and an active participant in the plays produced by the Scottish Rite. Ray is also prominent in the activities of his church, being a member of the official Board and a teacher of an adult Bible Class in Marengo Avenue Methodist Church of Alhambra, a work he thoroughly enjoys.

On Tuesday evening, December 7, 1943, Ray was elected to the office of Worshipful Master of La Brea Lodge and announced that an open installation of officers would be held in the lodge room on December 21, 1943.

### INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS

The officers, elected and appointive, for the Masonic Year 1944, were duly and regularly installed on Tuesday evening, December 21, 1943, by Lee T. Mullen, as Installing Officer, assisted by Wm. T. Wheeling as Master of Ceremonies. The officers, so installed, being:

Ray S. Smith . . . . .	Worshipful Master
George W. Burch, Jr. . . . .	Senior Warden
Charles F. Laverty . . . . .	Junior Warden
Walter E. Robertson . . . . .	Treasurer
John W. Swank . . . . .	Secretary
Vesper A. Bradfield . . . . .	Chaplain
Russell Lee . . . . .	Senior Deacon
Anton G. Hookanson . . . . .	Junior Deacon
Ben J. Perry . . . . .	Marshal
James W. Mann . . . . .	Senior Steward
Arthur H. Schlanert . . . . .	Junior Steward
William E. Jones . . . . .	Tiler

The Junior Warden and Chaplain being absent, were subsequently installed.

We find W. E. Robertson, P.M., gracing the Treasurer's station for the first time; Vesper A. Bradfield filling the station of Chaplain; James W. Mann, as Senior Steward; Karl S. Schlegel, having been inducted into service in 1943, was unable to continue as an officer, but he was assured that on his subsequent return from service, he would be reappointed to the line of officers. While Karl subsequently was released from the military service, yet, at his own request he was not reappointed.

The retiring Junior Past Master, Frank F. Merrill, and his charming wife, were presented with a Past Master's ring and traveling bag, respectively.

The Board of Trustees consisted of John W. Swank, chairman, W. E. Robertson and Frank F. Merrill.

An interesting feature of Ray's installation was that he wore a beautiful gold-fringed collar from which was appended the Master's jewel, which that evening had been presented to him by his mother at his home and one that had been worn by his great grandfather on two occasions when he had been installed as Master of his lodge at Decatur, Tennessee, before the Civil War.



As this was a "war year" the problem of food was of much concern to everyone. So was the matter of transportation, because gasoline and tires became a "problem to solve." However, Ray determined that there would be held the monthly stated meeting dinners and by varied and sundry means obtained the food and took it to the lodge kitchen where Mrs. Busse (who still prepares the meals for our lodge) cooked it and with the assistance of the Stewards served the members delightful meals.

For many years Ray had been concerned about the Masonic Homes Endowment fund, particularly because La Brea Lodge had never done very much about it. In planning his program for the year he set up as a goal \$1.00 per member for this cause. In order to give this move an impetus and impress the members of its importance a "kangaroo" court was activated during the refreshment hour with Bob Robertson acting as judge, jury and executioner. Needless to say that year we went "over the top" in a big way and from this start La Brea Lodge has continued to make the Homes Endowment fund a major project in each year's program. Bob's "style" has been considerably "cramped" the last several years as the "kangaroo court" was abolished, but there are many who are still reluctant to "speak out of turn" or come up with a faulty ritualistic performance.

The editorial staff of the Diplodocus consisted of Ray S. Smith, editor; and George W. Burch, Jr., business manager; but during the year James W. Mann took over the editorship.

During the year the following were either elected or raised (those with an asterisk before their names were raised):

- |                      |                       |
|----------------------|-----------------------|
| Boyle, Joseph I.     | *Templeton, Joe M.    |
| *Cameron, Hugh J.    | *Thomas, Carlos H.    |
| *Dean, K. O.         | *Yecsmen, Charles     |
| *Cockrell, Alfred M. | Middleton, Ralph A.   |
| Fisher, Lawrence     | Smith, Ernest de F.   |
| Gerick, John         | *Alison, Charles M.   |
| *Hoover, Ira E.      | *Bernard, Francis J.  |
| Huntsman, Harry W.   | *Brackett, Paul E.    |
| Murphy, Clifford B.  | *Evans, Barry         |
| *Ostrom, Emil O.     | *Colby, Herbert L.    |
| Scannell, Howard D.  | *Gaertner, William L. |
| *Schoenwald, Paul R. | *Odegard, Norman J.   |
| Schankel, Frank B.   | *Schmidt, Julius      |
| Tappenbeck, Hatto    | *Thompson, Duane A.   |

The problem of issuing the Diplodocus regularly became one of the pressing issues for Lodge to take action on. Publication of the Diplodocus during 1943 was restricted to six issues due to several causes, but principally to the lack of necessary finances for the purpose. Several of our members generously contributed through advertising towards its support, but the total of the contributions was not sufficient to carry the financial burden of regular publication, and since the Lodge, in its budget, made no provision for this purpose, it being felt that the Diplodocus should be self-supporting, the problem and its solution were indeed critical. It was the consensus of the Lodge members, that if possible, the Diplodocus should be published regularly, as with strict gasoline rationing and with so many of our members in the Armed Forces, the bulletin served as a very important medium of contact with members. Therefore, when the budget committee met provision was

made for the regular publication of the Diplodocus and members again were able to read about lodge activities though long distances away, many of them with the armed forces overseas.

Due to ill health, Thomas A. Dille, who was inspector for the 78th Masonic District for many years, resigned that office, and the vacancy created thereby was filled by the appointment of Frederic Edwin Clark, Past Master of Wilshire Lodge No. 445, and as La Brea is a member of this District, we find that Fred E. Clark was the fourth Inspector for La Brea Masonic Lodge, having been preceded by Lee T. Mullen, Wm. T. Wheeling, and Thomas A. Dille.

I am not sure whether it was during Ray Smith's year, or that of Frank Merrill, when Lodge action was taken to bring up all of the Past Masters' pictures to date, and for this purpose it was decided that in the future all pictures would be of a uniform size and texture, and those which had been previously taken would be returned to the individual Past Masters whose pictures appeared thereon, but only after these pictures had been rephotographed in order that ultimately the pictures would be included in as few frames as possible. As of the date of the publication of this history, one frame has been completely filled, and the second frame is very nearly filled with pictures of the Past Masters, and there are no "missing links."

#### PAST MASTERS' NIGHT

On November 14, 1944, the brethren of La Brea Lodge, or at least those who could scrape enough gasoline coupons together, witnessed the Past Masters Wm. T. Wheeling, Russ Ray, Ted Heinold, C. B. Goodridge, Lloyd Laumann, Jo Hurd, W. J. Harvey, John Swank, Bob Robertson and Frank Merrill confer the Third Degree upon K. O. Dean and it follows that the work was done to the full and complete satisfaction of those participating.

#### EIGHTEENTH ANNUAL MUSTER

Tuesday, October 24, 1944, witnessed the Eighteenth Annual Muster of La Brea Lodge. While the "soap box" oration was missing, as was the usual number of guests who have attended in the past few years, yet the meeting was a success, from the time the first member walked into the Lodge Room until the last one left that night. Faces that had not graced our doorway for years were present, and all found others to talk with and relive the days of our lodge during the various years of its growth. This year found more of our members away from home than ever before, yet we had an excellent attendance of 87. Members, during this year, were scattered around the globe. About twenty per cent were in the armed services of our country.

Our beloved Sam Burke, Past Grand Master, was present, as he has been every year since we were organized. Brother Sam gave one of his inspiring talk, talks that are mellowed only by the many years of a gracious and well spent life.

#### FAMILY NIGHT

Feeling that a Masonic Lodge is important in a family where there is a member, a "family night" was a "must" this year, even though most foods were severely rationed—especially coffee and sugar. Turkey, which was not on the ration list, was indeed popular (or was it) at these banquets, so we had turkey, with all the trimmings. It was an enjoyable affair and added much to lodge interest.

By the time you have reached this point in the History of La Brea Lodge, you may begin to wonder

#### WHERE EDITORS COME FROM

"I don't know how newspapers and magazines got into the world, and I don't think God does, for He ain't got nothing to say about them in the Bible. I think the editor is the missing link we read of, and stayed in the bushes after the flood and then came out and wrote the thing up, and has been kept here ever since. If the editor makes mistakes, folks say he ought to be hung; and if the doctor makes mistakes people can't say nothing because they can't read and write Latin. When the editor makes mistakes, there is a big lawsuit, and swearing and big fuss. A doctor can use a word a yard long without him or anybody else knowing what it means, but if the editor uses one he has to spell it. Any college can make doctors to order, but editors has to be born."

The original author of the above may have been a schoolboy writing his first essay, or he may have been one of the old-school writers presenting his opinions in the vernacular of his environment.

Who he was, we don't know, but his little "essay" in defense of editors is at least entertaining, and may have a softening influence on those of our readers who think that all editors should be hung.



Lodge attendance, or rather a lack of attendance, has always been a problem, and it can be said:

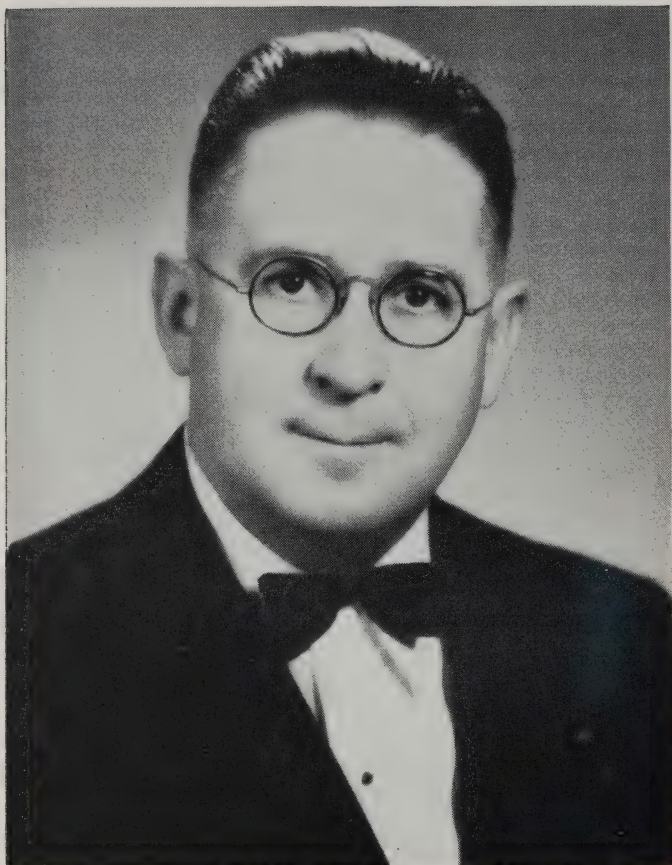
#### HEY, YOU ABSENTEES!

If you only knew, how much we miss you,  
You'd come flying to us real soon;  
And maybe we'd try to meet you on "high"  
In our own little toy balloon.

If the fog hung close, out here on the coast,  
We'd make our way up where it's clear;  
For with you in sight, the lining is bright;  
We really want you here.

Now you're not alone, like a tramp with no home;  
The world doesn't seem like a hole;  
The sun often shines, as in southern climes;  
You're not weary in body and soul.

But methinks you need a change, so come within range  
And get a glimpse of us here.  
We'll be waiting for you—the whole darn crew;  
We'll give you a welcome, sincere!



GEORGE WOODWARD BURCH, JR.  
Worshipful Master  
1945



## Chapter XIX

George W. Burch, Jr. served as Master during the year of 1945. George pleads guilty to the name of George Woodward Burch, Jr., but rumor has it that he at one time carried the name of George Washington Burch, Jr., but we don't know for sure.

Brother George was born on September 17, 1899, in Coatesville, Pennsylvania, on the road which William Penn, according to history, is said to have traveled. George was one of four children. His mother was a Quaker and his father was a showman, an Indian fighter, a Wyoming cattleman, and in later years a California rancher. George's father, for many years, was general manager of Buffalo Bill's Wild West Show, and on one occasion, he and Buffalo Bill took the show to London, England, and while there gave a command performance before Queen Victoria, who, though she had never seen a "cowboy," was intrigued with the lore of the West. She evidently enjoyed the show for she presented to George's father a beautiful single action Colt 45, frontier model, with hand engraving on the barrel and chamber, with ivory grips. This gun is the proud possession of George.

When George was one year of age, his parents moved to Cody, Wyoming, at a time when all ranch houses were made of hand split logs, and the roofs were likewise covered by split logs, with baked dirt filling the cracks in between. This was fine as long as it only snowed in the winter, but, when it rained, the dirt in the roof would dissolve, and water and mud would leak into the house, and on these occasions, George's mother would keep an umbrella over his crib, thus deflecting all, or at least most of the water and mud. Life in those early frontier days was rough and rigorous, for it is said that the first six men who died in Cody, Wyoming, died with their boots on, and a man's "six shooter" was his best friend, at least until you were sure of the man you were dealing with. George must have thrived on the Western diet, because in 1910, due to the illness of his mother, his father, with much regret, migrated to Orange, California, where they resided until 1914, at which time they moved to Owensmouth (which was supposed to signify the mouth of Owens River, as represented by the water tunnel at San Fernando, California) but in recent years, the name of this town has been changed to Canoga Park. The family still owns their ranch at Canoga Park, although George's father died in 1938.

In 1918, George, after graduating in three years from the Canoga Park High School, and in his last year serving as student body president, as well as editor of its school annual, for which he was personally commended by Woodrow Wilson, President of the United States, was sent to the U. S. Army Officers' Training Camp at Stanford University. Standing among the top one-third of his corps, George came out as one of the "90-Day Wonders" (those of you who were in World War I know what this means). Following his discharge at the end of World War I, George became a member of the Stanford University track team, with a smattering of football sandwiched in;

was a varsity debater for the University; promoted a debate between Senator Keyes Pitman, U.S. Senator from Nevada, and Senator Hiram Johnson of California, on the controversial subject, the "League of Nations," this being the only major debate by leaders of the two opposing parties on this controversial subject, and in 1922 graduated from Stanford with an A.B. degree. He continued with his law work at Stanford, and in 1924, received his Juris Doctor's degree, and the day he graduated, he married Miss Julia Spears in the Stanford Memorial Church.

He spent a short time in the employ of the Title Insurance and Trust Company, prior to his admission in 1924, to the State Bar of California and the United States District Court. In September, 1924, he was admitted to these courts, and immediately opened his law office in Los Angeles, in Association with William C. Shelton, brother of James E. Shelton, the present president of the Security-First National Bank of Los Angeles, and with whom he remained until Mr. Shelton's retirement in 1946. Since that date he has continuously maintained his own law office in the Subway Terminal Bldg., Los Angeles, California, specializing in civil, probate and corporation practice.

George's Masonic activities are well known to most of us, but for history purposes they are in part, as follows:

He was made a member of La Brea Lodge in 1929, was elected Treasurer of La Brea Lodge in 1939, was appointed by W. J. Harvey, Master in 1939 to fill a vacancy of Junior Steward, and in succeeding years, filled all of the stations, other than that of Marshal and Chaplain, and was elected and installed as Worshipful Master of La Brea Lodge for the Masonic Year 1945. In 1945 he was elected President of the 78th Masonic District, and in the same year he was appointed by Grand Master Lawrence Kelley on the Grand Lodge Jurisprudence Committee; in 1951, Grand Master Louis C. Drapeau appointed him as a committee member of the Grand Lodge Correspondence Committee, to which committee he has been reappointed yearly. This committee has the responsibility of editing the proceedings of 49 Masonic Jurisdictions in the U.S., together with all Foreign Masonic Jurisdictions with whom the California Masonic Grand Lodge maintains fraternal relations, and commencing with the Masonic year 1954, has published its official reports quarterly under the name of "California Freemason." When George retired as Master, at the end of the Masonic year 1945, he was immediately elected Treasurer of La Brea Masonic Lodge and has occupied this station ever since; he was one of the organizers of the Las Flores Masonic Temple Association, and was its First President, serving in this capacity for four years; in 1945 he was elected to the Los Angeles Bodies of the Scottish Rite, receiving his 32nd degree in the same year, and has been very active over the years in its degree and committee work, as well as being one of its officers, and for the last 5 years he has been Assistant Director of the Los Angeles Scottish Rite Players, which has produced such successful plays as Julius Caesar, King Henry IV, Franklin and the King, The Architects of Freedom and Brother Martin (Martin Luther). These plays have starred John Swank, Russell Lee, Ray Smith, Emil Ostrom, Bob Uhlik, Ben Perry, all members of La Brea Lodge and recently Past Master Hugh Cameron has been made an assistant to George.

His extra-Masonic activities during World War II included that of Training Officer of the Civilian Defense of the City of Los Angeles, and in

this activity he was ably assisted by Karl Schlegel, Charles Yecsman, Willys Gregory and Julius Schmidt.

He is a member of the California State Bar Association, Southern California Past Masters' Association, Town Hall and the Los Angeles Breakfast Club, as well as being an officer and director of a number of corporations.

Two children blessed the home of Julia and George: George W. Burch III, who was raised and made a Master Mason in 1953, and who has blessed Julia and George with two grandchildren, David and Susan; and another son, Buckner S. Burch, a senior at the University of Southern California.

An article which appeared in the Diplodocus, concerning George, best describes him:

"There is a certain man in the membership of our lodge, who is a real Mason and who never misses an opportunity to do a good turn for some brother. I personally know what he has done for me unasked. He does not miss an opportunity to cement a friendship and I know that his actions have not added a red cent to his income, but he continues on his way, doing good at every turn without any expectation that it will ever bring him any pecuniary reward. You are probably thinking that some officer or Past Master wrote this article, but you are mistaken—it is just an ordinary member like yourself."

## NINETEENTH INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS

Tuesday evening, December 19, 1944, witnessed the nineteenth Installation of Officers of La Brea Lodge No. 650, F. & A. M., under the supervision of Lee T. Mullen, as Installing Officer, and Carl F. Peters, Inspector of the 80th Masonic District, and a very close friend of our new Master, George W. Burch, Jr., acted as Master of Ceremonies. The largest crowd in the history of La Brea Lodge attended the open installation to witness the ceremonies which installed George W. Burch, Jr. as Master for the Masonic year 1945, together with the following officers:

Charles F. Laverty . . . . .	Senior Warden
Russell Lee . . . . .	Junior Warden
William T. Wheeling, P.M. . . . .	Treasurer
John, W. Swank, P.M. . . . .	Secretary
Merrill Butterfield . . . . .	Chaplain
Anton G. Hookanson . . . . .	Senior Deacon
W. James Mann . . . . .	Junior Deacon
Carlos H. Thomas . . . . .	Marshal
Ben J. Perry . . . . .	Senior Steward
R. Franklyn Burgan . . . . .	Junior Steward
William E. Jones . . . . .	Tiler
Charles Yecsman . . . . .	Organist

This corps of officers, included, as is true of every year, certain new men, who warranted the privilege of serving the Lodge; we find that our Senior Past Master, Wm. T. Wheeling, occupied the dignified station of Treasurer; Merrill Butterfield as Chaplain; Carlos H. Thomas, Marshal; R. Franklyn Burgan, Junior Steward, and Charles Yecsman, Organist. During the year, due to pressure of business and their moving elsewhere, we lost the services of Merrill Butterfield and Carlos H. Thomas, and they were succeeded in these stations by Emil O. Ostrom and Vesper A. Bradfield as Chaplain and Marshal, respectively.



Our Junior Past Master, Ray S. Smith, in appreciation of his services, was presented with a Past Master's ring, a gift from La Brea Lodge, by Dave M. Evans, P.M., and Dolly Smith, his wife, was then presented with a beautiful gift from the members of La Brea Lodge.

The Board of Trustees comprised the following brethren:

W. E. Robertson, Chairman; Frank F. Merrill and Ray S. Smith.

W. James Mann was persuaded to undertake the Editorship of the *Diplodocus* for another year.

During the year 1945, more candidates were elected and raised than in any other year of La Brea's history, other than the year 1927. We find that the following were elected or raised. Those with an asterisk before their names being raised:

*Bates, Merrill F.	Marsh, Robert D.
Beeson, Jacob E.	*Middleton, Ralph A.
Benning, Ernest S.	*Murphy, Clifford B.
Bentine, Robert C.	Murphy, Clifford M.
*Bicknell, Harold A.	*Nugent, Richard W.
*Boylan, Joseph I.	Peters, Leonard J.
Burke, Walter E.	Pisciotta, James A.
Cowen, Jr., Carl C.	*Pisciotta, James A.
Cox, Raymond W., Sr.	*Rogers, Kenneth H.
*Donaghue, James R.	*Scannel, Howard D.
Donaldson, John H.	*Shankel, Frank B.
*Ferrell, William E.	*Smith, Ernest De F.
*Gosmann, Jack L.	*St. John, Lloyd C.
*Harbes, Clifford H.	Swartz, George C.
*Hay, Reinhold C.	*Tappenbeck, Hatto
*Hurst, Thomas M.	*Taylor, Edwin M.
Jacob, Henry G.	*Tinker, Stanley E.
Karn, Walter A.	*Tyler, George C.
*Kittredge, James H.	Veatch, Wayne O.
*Klontzman, James H.	*Weaver, Richard M.
*Lowe, Robert A.	*Wilson, Frank M.
*Lowe, Royal G.	Zilles, Emmett H.

The following Brethren, from other Masonic Lodges, were elected by affiliation: Ford, Francis C., and Luther, Robert L.

## OUR CONSTITUTION

Since the time our Founding Fathers fought for and made this nation a Free Democratic Country, dedicated to liberty and the pursuit of happiness, peoples of other nations, with different ideologies than ours, have made studied efforts to undermine our way of life by propaganda, which has as its objective, the overthrow of our form of government by force, violence or other unlawful means, and it is well for Masons, who are dedicated to "God and Country," to pause and give thought to our Constitution.

With the advent of 1945, the Lodge purchased a complete new set of officers' aprons, and if memory fails me not, these aprons replaced the set which the first officers of the Lodge wore in 1926-27.

One of our members, K. O. Dean, prepared and presented to the Lodge, an "Honor Roll" metal plaque in honor of our service attached members in



World War II, but unfortunately, our records do not reveal the names of our membership who are entitled to have their names inscribed on the plaque. It is, indeed, a very beautiful, as well as, a thoughtful gift and La Brea is proud of it.

With the advent of this year, a Lodge History Committee, consisting of C. B. Goodridge, P.M., Chairman, Wm. T. Wheeling, P.M., and Lloyd Fruehling, was appointed by Brother George, but due to prevailing conditions, they are not in a position to accomplish very much, but they, individually, have rendered us considerable advice.

I just remember that at the behest of the Worshipful Master, a committee was appointed, consisting of W. J. Harvey, Lloyd Laumann and Bob Robertson, and they worked out a suitable frame for the Past Masters' pictures, past and future up to 1954. Bob did most of the work. All the Past Masters' pictures, which had been previously taken, were rephotographed by the Autrey studio so as to make them of a uniform size and finish, and you will now find these valuable historical pictures, enclosed under glass and in two frames. The original individual framed pictures were in turn presented by the Lodge to the "loving wives" of the respective Past Masters who had been "mugged." Bob Robertson, on occasion, has been guilty of the "heinous" offense of referring to the Past Masters' pictures as the "Rogues' gallery."

During the year, the practice was commenced, but succeeding Masters have not, for one reason or another, followed the practice of remembering each member on his birthday with a birthday card from the Lodge, and a birthday cake was provided at every stated meeting in honor of those brothers in attendance whose birthdays fell in the month of the stated meeting.

Many of La Brea members will remember one of the messages of Brother George, entitled "For Many There Will Be No Rejoicing." The message goes on to say, "Many of us are searching for words of comfort, consolation and advice about how to carry on, knowing that some friend or loved one will never return (Brother George's oldest son, George W. Burch III, who became a member of La Brea Lodge in 1953, was at the time in the U.S. Navy Hospital in Corpus Christi, Texas, with a broken neck, as the result of an injury in a submarine). It would be easy enough to point out that grief is, after all, the common lot of man; that thousands, perhaps even millions, all over the world, must shroud their relief at victory in mourning which will follow them to the grave; and that it is for the living to bear their sorrows proudly. But such philosophy does not carry much of a meaning to anybody who experiences the loneliness of bereavement. Not even the knowledge that a friend or loved one, who gave his life that we might assemble as Masons and Free Men, would want the news of peace received with joy, can allay the thought that there are those who are indifferent to other men's sacrifices and to the price which they paid.

We cannot entirely heal the sorrow of the living, but with all reverence, we can accept the fact that the name on a casualty list is not just a name, but represents a hurt to someone which will never entirely heal; that the family of those who have died in this war have a claim on the kindness and decency of all of us, for my Brother 'thy woe shall be my woe'.

Captain F. W. Pelren, and a member of La Brea Lodge, presented to the Lodge, a Common Gavel from King Solomon's quarry in Jerusalem.

The La Brea Honor Roll, of our members who were in the armed services in World War II, and as the year 1945 was brought up to date:

Norman Archibald Bennett  
 Paul Richard Schoenwald  
 Chester Joseph Nowak  
 Duncan Keith Caldwell  
 Alfred Huston Lacy  
 Edward George Huefe  
 William Horatio Parcels  
 Karl Stehle Schlegel  
 Harley Shands Robertson  
 Lawrance Raymond McDonald  
 Francis William Pelren  
 Gordon Nevoy Smith  
 Meyers Persohn Butte  
 Charles Merlyn Alson  
 John H. Klenke  
 Fred Wilson

Eugene Mason  
 Clarence Jacob Brown  
 Jerome Travis Smith  
 Tjarand Jerry Anderson  
 Kenneth Smith  
 Martin Luther Thomas  
 Royal Jerome Lee  
 James Winston McBride  
 James Dayton Garrigues  
 Nelson Elmer Roberts  
 Leland James Ervin  
 Waldo Secil Petty  
 John William Colbert  
 John Henry Winch  
 David Morris Evans  
 Ralph Middleton

So far as we recall, and this article was written in 1954, there was not a single member of La Brea who lost his life, while in service, in World War II, and for this we are thankful.

Yes, we heard from Captain Wm. H. Parcels (P.M.) U.S.N., and among other things, he expressed his approval of our program to issue a Lodge History and offered many valuable suggestions. Bill, when he heard that Lloyd Laumann, P.M., and W. J. Harvey, P.M., had sons in the armed forces expressed the thought that this really made him feel old when "two juveniles had some sons in service." Among other things, Bill wanted to know "who in hell" wrote the article in one of the recent issues of the Diplodocus, in which it was stated that Bill was a Commander in the U.S. Navy "Quartermasters Corps," as the Navy has a "Supply Corps" but not a "Quartermaster Corps" which is reserved for the Army. (We plead guilty to both counts), but as Bill was a "shave tail" (Second Lieutenant) in the Army in World War I, and a Captain in the Navy in World War II, this made him "an Amphibian" and there is no wonder we became confused.

During the year, a request was made that we publish a list showing the names of "Sons and Daughters" of members in service, and while the list may not be complete, it is the best that we were able to compile.

Harold Caywood Hall, son of Hal Hall, a gunner in the Air Corps (subsequently captured and interned in a German prison camp).

Robert Lauterwasser, son of Carl, a radio technician.

Walter S. Alson, son of Major Chas. M. Alson, has been in the Navy one year, and according to his father, he has received more medals than his father, who has been in the Army over 20 years.

Jim Klentzman, Jr., son of Jim, a Lieutenant of the Infantry in the U.S. Army (also interned in a German prison camp).

Charles Wakefield, son of Harold, is somewhere in Germany, and is assigned to a photographic unit.

Bud Ladd, son of Don Ladd, is in Marine Corps with the rank of a Lieutenant. His dad, in the last war, served as Lieutenant in the Infantry.

George Burch, son of our Master, is doing radar work in the Navy. (In 1953 became a member of La Brea Lodge).

William and Patricia Wheeling, son and daughter respectively of Bill Wheeling, are a credit to their father, who for many years has been both

father and mother to them. Patricia is a Wac and Bill is in the Navy.

Gordon and Kenneth Smith, sons of Bill Smith, all of whom are members of La Brea Lodge, have gone different courses. Gordon, "Lieutenant to you," is a pilot in the Marine Air Corps, and Kenneth is a Cavalryman.

Raymond H. Smith, son of Ray S. Smith, P.M., Chief Pharmacist's Mate U.S.N., serving 19 months in the South Pacific—12 months on Guadalcanal.

Robert Laumann, son of Lloyd Laumann, P.M., is assigned to the service corps of the Army.

James Harvey, son of Wm. J. Harvey, P.M., is improving his education as a member of the Navy, as a V-12 Cadet, and later received his commission as Ensign.

Shirley I. Smith, a Wave, daughter of Ernie Smith.

Charley Laverty's family have done themselves proud: we find the following in service:

Richard Laverty, Air Corps, Bill Laverty, U.S. Army, Morris Grekel U.S. Army; Howard Grekel, flight commander; and Sonja Grekel, a Wave.

Barbara Jean Brown, daughter of Clarence Brown. Barbara is a Wave.

There are, undoubtedly, many other sons and daughters of our members who were in the service, and we should like to have their names and service for future additions to this History.

So many candidates were elected and degrees conferred, that the Lodge officers and sideliners put in long hours, twice a week, and W. James Mann facetiously applied the appellation to Brother George of being a "slave driver." On Saturday, November 17, 1945, we really worked. Starting at 2:00 o'clock P.M., five Third Degrees had been conferred by 11:00 o'clock P.M., allowing time out for dinner. Many of the sideliners participated, and with this added assistance, the occasion was enjoyed by all.

During the year, the Lodge invested the sum of \$1,140 of Lodge Funds in War Bonds, and with this investment, the Lodge has a reserve invested in War Bonds having a maturity value of \$2,950.00.

While some may feel that the chapter devoted to the year 1945 is perhaps too long, yet, as the author of the popular television program, "Dragnet" is "wont" to say, "Give me the facts 'man,' just for the record," we find that the matters reported herein all took place in 1945, so do not shoot Brother George.

Due to war regulations, restricting group gatherings, the Grand Master, by a proclamation, decreed Grand Lodge this year would be limited to one day, October 12th. No business would be transacted nor controversial subjects discussed. The proceedings were to consist of the installation of Lawrence Kelley as Grand Master of Masons. Likewise, no Junior Warden was to be elected, and none was elected, this requiring the election in the following year of both a Junior Warden and a Senior Warden. We were saddened by the death of our Grand Master, Lawrence Kelley, for he died as the result of a heart attack immediately following his installation, while still in San Francisco.

A worthwhile project, which was commenced and completed during the year, was the assembly of a complete set of all copies of the Diplodocus, and these copies, together with all copies for subsequent years, up to and including 1953, have been bound, and someday when we have our own Lodge, will form the nucleus of a La Brea Library.



## NOTES OF LA BREA'S 19TH ANNUAL MUSTER

The evening of October 23, 1945, was a gala occasion, marking as it did the 19th Annual Muster of La Brea Masonic Lodge. According to the Tiler's Register, 120 Master Masons signed their names and we feel sure that there were others who failed to sign. It was a sight for sore eyes, the way we consumed turkey and "all the fixin's," but best of all, the helpings were generous. Although, someone did slip to Lloyd Fruehling the posterior part of the turkey (P.S.—For Russ Lee's edification, that is the part that went over the fence last) Lloyd managed to hold his own. If you were among the fortunate who attended, you know who were present, but for the benefit of those who were unable to attend, we shall recapitulate a portion of the proceedings. Fred Hauner came the longest distance to attend this Muster. Fred was taken prisoner by the Japs on Wake Island, at the inception of the war, and until his rescue he was incarcerated in several different prison camps. Fred, on the Friday before the Muster, returned to the home of his uncle (also a member of La Brea Lodge) Lael Lee, from Wake Island. It was with pride that we welcomed Fred home.

"Bru" Leonard came all the way from Washington, D.C.; Ed Seifert, from Salinas, California.

The greatest surprise of all, however, was the presence of Phil Kalech, who not only was a charter member and former officer of the Lodge, but was one of the major factors in the organization of the Lodge. This, incidentally, was the first Muster or visit to the Lodge by Phil since 1927.

On inquiry, we found out that Lael Lee had been a Master Mason for 35 years and Elery P. Vernon for 45 years. This, my brethren, is a record of which to be proud.

For many years La Brea Lodge has been the proud possessor of Masonic pennants, with the name La Brea Lodge suitably inscribed thereon. C. B. Goodridge, P.M. not only was the originator of the pennants, but graciously presented them to the Lodge many years ago. Little, or no use had been made of the pennants in recent years and the thought was advanced that they should be distributed among the members as a memento, and on the 19th Annual Muster a drawing was held under the guidance of Bill Wheeling, P.M., and fortunate were the successful winners whose names were drawn.

Many of those attending were in civilian clothes for the first time in many years. We recall seeing Major Huefe, Joe Ervin, Ralph Middleton, Clarence Brown, Fred Wilson, Major Martin L. Thomas (who incidentally, is still in service).

Every Past Master in Los Angeles attended the Annual Muster, plus Geo. F. Meitner. The Past Masters answering the Roll Call were Wm. T. Wheeling, Wm. W. Wedding, Russell L. Ray, Ted A. Heinold, C. B. Goodridge, W. Lloyd Laumann, Jo D. Hurd, W. J. Harvey, Geo. F. Meitner, John W. Swank, W. E. Robertson, and Ray S. Smith. Bill Parcels, Master in 1928, was still serving as Commander in the Navy. Wm. H. Barker, Master in 1929, field accountant for the Southern California Edison Company, was out of town. Lieutenant Commander David M. Evans, Master in 1938, was unable to attend the Muster. Frank Merrill, Master in 1943, when last heard from, was chasing coyotes and snakes somewhere in Arizona.

Lee T. Mullen, Inspector Emeritus, appeared with a box of soda crackers, but in turn was presented with a soap box and cheese, so as to complete the props for the "soap box" legend.



S. E. Burke, P.G.M., delivered a stirring address, and one that will long be remembered.

During the year three additional names were added to the Sacred Roll: Mack Clifton Luke, Harold Y. Stevenson, and Vernon Cephas Kent. (Our Master, George W. Burch, Jr., assisted by John W. Swank, P.M., conducted the Masonic services.)

### PAST MASTERS' NIGHT

Past Masters' Night was held this year on November 20, 1945, under the direction of Ray S. Smith, Junior Past Master. Whenever the Past Masters confer a Third Degree, it is always appreciated by the membership and this one was no exception.

In closing this chapter, let me say:

"Oh, the World's a curious compound,  
With its honey and its gall,  
With its care and bitter crosses—  
But a good World, after all.  
An' a good God must have made it—  
Leastwise, that is what I say,  
When a hand is on my shoulder  
In a friendly sort o' way."

—James Whitcomb Riley

Emil Ostrom composed a "doggerel" and as it is current history, the year would not be complete without the proper recordation thereof, so it is only fitting that the same be printed in its entirety and as an addenda to the report of George's stewardship for the year 1945.

### LA BREA LODGE NO. 650 AND ITS FAMILY

Welcome, Brother, welcome,  
To this Annual Muster meeting;  
We are very happy  
To extend to you this greeting.  
George Burch, our Worshipful Master,  
Is glad to see you here;  
All hail to this, our special night  
Of good fellowship and cheer.  
The officers of this year,  
With those of years gone by,  
Feel honored with their chance to serve,  
And here's the reason why:  
There never was a finer group  
Of men in any lodge;  
We have our serious moments  
But clean fun we never dodge.  
La Brea Lodge was started  
Back in nineteen twenty-six—  
That's the year "Bill" Wheeling  
Was the guy who knew the tricks;  
He dealt one off the bottom—  
What he drew was never clear;  
Anyway, he rated as  
Head man an extra year.  
They called him "Bill, the First,"  
And when this year was through,  
"Bill" Parcels was Master,  
And called "Bill, Number Two."  
William H. Barker was  
The next man in the line,  
And he held sway as Master  
In nineteen twenty-nine.

Jay Burnett in thirty,  
In thirty-one, "Bill" Wedding.  
Can you guess who was the next  
That for the East was heading?  
It was Russell Ray,  
That man of great renown,  
Whose cosmetics and perfumes  
Have been sweetening up the town.  
In nineteen thirty-three it was  
Master Zellner Hart;  
We'll always hold kind memories,  
For the way he did his part.  
And thus we have completed  
For you, the first eight years.  
Each one was a Charter Member—  
Let's give those boys three cheers.  
We have more Charter Members,  
And more Past Masters, too,  
And as you continue reading,  
We'll point them out to you.  
But first we want to ask you,  
How is your cigarette?  
"Colonel Wedding from Kentucky"  
Will tell you what to get.  
Our next Master was very fast,  
Ted Heinold is his name;  
Nineteen thirty-four his year,  
Racing was his game.  
Grandfather twice, within a week,  
And he plays at golf, it's said,  
But we've been tipped to put our dough  
On Dr. Earl Wells, instead.

Then came Cee Bee Goodridge,  
 The first editor of the "Dip";  
 He was Master in thirty-five,  
 Is the owner of "The Ship";  
 Father of children's Christmas parties,  
 A real poet—and we think  
 That we could write a whole lot more,  
 But we might run out of ink.  
 W. Lloyd Laumann was Master  
 In nineteen thirty-six;  
 He's the boy that teaches "Bob"  
 All those Shrine Patrol tricks.  
 It seems that Bob does the ground work,  
 The hard stuff he has done;  
 Then Lloyd Laumann sings his song,  
 And the battle has been won.  
 The Toupe Manufacturer's Convention  
 Was held in nineteen thirty-seven,  
 To discuss the way to stop the glare  
 That shone to the high heaven.  
 When the meet was over,  
 And they had passed the word,  
 The new Master at La Brea,  
 Was that genial Jo D. Hurd.  
 Dave M. Evans came along  
 In nineteen thirty-eight,  
 A lieutenant Commander, and a shark  
 At selling real estate.  
 He tried to sell some property,  
 And picked on James McBride;  
 The lots were under water,  
 And only twenty feet wide.  
 The Dew Drop man, Wendell Harvey,  
 In nineteen thirty-nine, held sway;  
 He's the fellow that washes  
 All those dark clouds away.  
 He stands for civic improvement,  
 And much success to him, we hope,  
 He was the Master, and a salesman  
 For a certain brand of soap.  
 Now if we sing your praises,  
 O. K., boys, that's swell,  
 But if we heckle you—in fun—  
 Please don't start raising—well.  
 The reason that we write like this,  
 We're sure you understand,  
 It's just to kill a lot of time,  
 And to let you know you're grand.  
 In nineteen forty George Meitner  
 Was Master of the Lodge,  
 And although a C. P. A.,  
 One thing he cannot dodge.  
 We know that when we mention it,  
 Someone will hit the ceiling;  
 Did you know his company is,  
 A guy they call Lloyd Fruehling?  
 More about Lloyd later,  
 We were told to be quite frank;  
 But now we want to write about  
 That marvelous guy, John Swank.  
 John was Master of the Lodge  
 In nineteen forty-one;  
 His title now is Secretary,  
 But not his only one.

He never will live down the name  
 Of "Crap Shootin' Parson";  
 When he rolled those sugar cubes  
 It was almost a case of arson.  
 It never really mattered  
 Just what he'd roll or call,  
 He always is a winner,  
 And usually cleans them all.  
 And, too, this we mention,  
 To John we tip our hat;  
 He really knows the ritual work,  
 There is no doubt of that.  
 The Master of the Lodge  
 In nineteen forty-two,  
 Is very hard to write about—  
 We'll leave it up to you;  
 It would take a volume  
 To tell about this one—  
 Of course, you know that we refer  
 To that Walter Robertson.  
 He has two brothers in the Lodge,  
 Noel R. and Harley S.,  
 And just why Walter is called "Bob,"  
 He never did confess.  
 But it really doesn't matter,  
 He tries hard to have high aims,  
 And George and Lloyd really shouldn't  
 Call him all those other names.  
 We insinuate no reflection  
 On his character and such,  
 But we are told "that to George Burch,  
 His business means 'so much.'"  
 "Bob" told us the other night,  
 But we don't know if it's news,  
 That he had reached his nineteenth year  
 Before he put on shoes.  
 You should have him spell the name  
 Of the state where he was born—  
 "Emmie, she comes first"—  
 Boys, it's really quite a yarn.  
 Now Frank Merrill, who was Master  
 In nineteen forty-three,  
 Is in the chemical business,  
 And as busy as a bee.  
 To name the products that he makes  
 Don't know if he'd consent,  
 But heard he has new formulas  
 For pole spray and even dog repellent.  
 Ray S. Smith was Master  
 In nineteen forty-four;  
 We've heard that at his printing shop  
 He has a swinging door.  
 When we asked the reason  
 We were told to make a trip  
 Down to see this busy place  
 Where they print the "Dip."  
 Ray must be a "super man,"  
 He's been working night and day;  
 Tuesday is the only time  
 That he will break away.  
 We hope more help he soon can hire,  
 So that he can relax,  
 To have more time for leisure,  
 And to figure out "sales tax."

So if you ever have some printing  
 That must be done first rate,  
 Don't forget, he has an ad,  
 And bring it down to "Tate."  
 Thus, Chapter One is ended,  
 Of our Past Masters we did tell;  
 They've each one done a marvelous job,  
 And we think that they are swell.  
 O.K., Boys, comes Chapter two:  
 Most anything can happen,  
 It may be true—and, maybe not,  
 But remember, now, no scrappin'.  
 Louie Erickson is manager  
 Of "White Gold" transportation;  
 He had himself a lot of fun  
 With gas and tire ration.  
 When we think of transportation  
 We think also of Francis Ford;  
 V. E. Bradfield rides along,  
 To help hold down the floor board,  
 Jim Klentzman is a fellow  
 That is mighty nice to know.  
 He'll sell you seeds, plants, or shrubs,  
 And stuff to make 'em grow.  
 Cliff Harbes is a Deputy,  
 And also a Chief Clerk,  
 Torrens Titles, quit claim deeds,  
 And other special work.  
 "Dick" Nugent heads a "Dime" store,  
 He has trinkets bright and gay;  
 He buys his stuff from K. O. Dean,  
 And sells to "Reinnie" Hay.  
 Hatto Tappenbeck, the camera man,  
 Took pictures by the score.  
 Remember, at the picnic?  
 Guess he'll have to print some more.  
 Now this fellow, Claude E. Ingham,  
 Is accountant, so they say,  
 For a hobby he works at carpentry,  
 Guess some guys are that way.  
 H. C. Jacobsmeyer, Dee H. Mason,  
 And also Edwin Kirk,  
 Are very busy fellows,  
 Devoted to their work.  
 Clyde Cailler, Charter Member,  
 Was Lodge Treasurer for years.  
 The next man, Duncan Caldwell,  
 Lives in Sonora, it appears.  
 Now if you've had a birthday,  
 No doubt you've had some cake,  
 Otto J. Endres is the boy  
 Who that Gold Seal brand does bake.  
 They say over in Hollywood  
 Somewhere near the bowl,  
 There's a well known attorney,  
 By the name of Emil Koehl.  
 H. H. Bell is in Tarzana,  
 In Puente, W. Wing,  
 Leo Pfeiffer in Altadena,  
 In L. A. we have Frank Ring.  
 Duane Thompson drove out Pico,  
 For his dog he looked and looked;  
 When he stopped way out on Bundy,  
 Found James Piscicotte had it cooked.

In Municipal court we know a fellow  
 By the name of James McCrory;  
 Julius Schmidt uses a Moscow stamp  
 In a bank—and that's no story.  
 Smith, Smith, Smith,  
 Three of them at a time!  
 We wish they'd change their names  
 To something that will rhyme.  
 Well, Papa Bill's our booster,  
 A fine family he is raising.  
 We're told, that as a hobby,  
 He's taken up "Star" gazing.  
 Now Gordon is a Lieutenant  
 In Marine Corps Aviation,  
 And of course, to Papa Bill,  
 The best flyer in the Nation.  
 While Kenneth has forsaken  
 His dainty boots and spurs,  
 And is with an armoured unit  
 Locating sound, as it occurs.  
 We have Paul Schoenwald in the Navy,  
 A Merchant Marine named Hurst.  
 But to hear Ralph Middleton tell it,  
 The See Bees always get there first.  
 Preston Orem, William Stewart,  
 And "Emeritus," Lloyd Fruehling,  
 Are the guys who check the books  
 Of our Treasurer, Bill Wheeling.  
 We're paging Jim H. Alen,  
 John Winch and Edward Gallaudet,  
 To keep an ever watchful eye  
 When those guys make their audit.  
 Welton Whann is a Patent Attorney,  
 And he's really made the grade,  
 His client's name, "Pat. Pending,"  
 Is on most everything that's made.  
 Have you heard Lloyd Fruehling cackle  
 Like a proud hen, make a racket?  
 When he does, Don Ladd sprints around  
 To find the old egg basket.  
 Phil Kalech and Ed Meister  
 Of the "Soap Box Brigade,"  
 Were prominent quite early,  
 And are Charter members, too,  
 While Ira Hoover, as his name implies,  
 Is a Republican, true blue.  
 Sorry, but we must report,  
 Some boys have been complaining  
 That Charlie Laverty is too slow  
 In starting his "campaigning."  
 There should be some free dinners,  
 With cigars, and such as that,  
 If he expects to get the vote  
 To wear that high silk hat.  
 Carlos Thomas was our head coach,  
 And a former Marshal, too.  
 Both he and Joe Mack Templeton  
 Are starting something new.  
 So they have moved to Wrightwood,  
 Way up on the hill,  
 We know they'll be successful, 'cause  
 There's a way, where there's a will.  
 We don't see much of Gustav Johnson,  
 Lester Blankfield or F. Gerew,



While we hear that to the Navy  
 Lieutenant Nelson Roberts still is true.  
 Clifford Murphy sells gas buggies;  
 With him is Clifford Jr., his son,  
 And digging gold, out Arizona way,  
 Is Charles J. Allison.  
 Glen Marshall lives in Glendale,  
 Walter Knoth in Beverly Hills,  
 Rachal Lewis in Santa Monica,  
 Where L. Fruehling cures his chills.  
 Now should you have some trouble  
 With your water, or your power,  
 Have Merritt Kneifel fix your phone  
 And call the Bureau by the hour—  
 Get John M. Golden  
 Or maybe Albert Phelan,  
 If Reginald Stevens or Roscoe Pool  
 Won't listen to your "wailin'."  
 We also have attorneys  
 Too numerous to mention,  
 But we have one case in mind  
 To call to your attention.  
 We met "Pedro" (George Tyler)  
 With "Pablo" (Howard Scannel)  
 Discussing with Cliff Harbes,  
 Who'd be the best guys on a panel,  
 They said, "Willis Peebles  
 Is the guy with lots of gas,  
 And that piano pokin' Chas. Yecsmen  
 Knows an attorney what says yes."  
 Could they be referring  
 To that notorious George Burch?  
 Ed Meister, Charter Member, said,  
 "He'll have you in a lurch."  
 So they called on Donald Ruppe,  
 And too, B. H. Hill—  
 It seems that Pablo had been tryin'  
 To break Senora Pedro's will.  
 She had bought some real estate  
 From a fellow called Russ Lee,  
 But he's our Junior Warden,  
 So that could never be.  
 So John Avery suggested  
 That they call M. L. Beauchamp;  
 He knows his weights and measures,  
 'Cause at that, he is the champ.  
 And too, some insurance  
 Was involved—advice they'd need.  
 They called C. Dunkelberger,  
 Thinking his counsel they'd heed.  
 He saw the case was quite involved,  
 Said softly, with a smile,  
 "The man who knows true value,  
 Is Alvah Ross, of the Miracle Mile.  
 Duane Bontecou, of Building  
 Maintenance,  
 Said to James R. Donaghue,  
 "Let's give our cars new paint jobs,  
 I'll tell you what let's do,  
 We'll go out to Stanley Tinker."  
 Then chimed in Ralph H. Gray,  
 "Russ Lee is a friend of mine,  
 You can't run off that way."  
 In walked Barry Evans,  
 With him Tom Prouex,

Our Charter Member, Horace Barton,  
 Thought those two would do.  
 Tom had done some floor work,  
 And, if they got Kenneth Shimer,  
 They'd have an aggregation  
 That would have to be a winner.  
 With "Kenny's" wit and ability  
 As an editor and writer,  
 Ernest Smith was very sure  
 The outlook was much brighter.  
 "Shimmy" Kenneth Shimer  
 Had been editor of the "Dip,"  
 And has tried for years to get "Peanut"  
 Meier to go with him on a bike trip.  
 Le Roy Henderson was called,  
 Of Dun and Bradstreet fame,  
 And Milo Mitchel we are sure,  
 Was the other name.  
 Then, when the case was called to court,  
 For Russ Lee they had to search.  
 You know who found him as well as we;  
 It was "Subpoena Server Burch."  
 The case was found one bottle short,  
 It had the folks all reeling.  
 Of course you guessed who was the  
 judge,  
 'Twas the Hon. (?) Lloyd Fruehling.  
 The moral of the story is:  
 There's nothing to the plot,  
 But we have mentioned several brothers  
 And we still have quite a lot.  
 Thus we come abruptly  
 To the end of Chapter Two.  
 You don't have to go on reading,  
 But we hope you will, will you?  
 Let us pause a moment  
 As we start Chapter Three,  
 To pay homage to the boys  
 Who brought us Victory.  
 Then we will proceed,  
 Our service men to name;  
 Some are home, some still away,  
 With gusto we proclaim:  
 Alfred Lacy, Duncan Caldwell,  
 Jerome Smith and Royal J. Lee,  
 John Colbert, Martin Thomas,  
 Chester Nowak and John Klenke;  
 James McBride, Eugene Mason,  
 Francis Pelran and Leland Ervin  
 Are some of the La Brea boys who  
 Kept the Japs and Nazis squirmin'.  
 Karl Schlegel, Laurence McDonald,  
 Dave Evans and John Winch,  
 They, too, were in there pitchin',  
 Though they knew it was no cinch.  
 William Parcels, Edward Huefe,  
 James Garrigues and Myer Butte,  
 With the others, made it clear  
 That they'd crush the tyrant's boot.  
 Charles Alson, "Jerry" Anderson,  
 Norman Bennett, Clarence Brown,  
 Helped to demonstrate the expression,  
 "Our boys are going to town."  
 Waldo Petty and Kenny Smith  
 Too, were with them,



As were also Gordon Smith  
 And Harley Robertson—  
 We all are grateful, fellows,  
 For the swell job you have done.  
 Some time ago we warned you  
 About George Burch and his crew.  
 But you didn't heed the message  
 That we conveyed to you.  
 Now, if you're at their mercy  
 We will try to help;  
 But we can see them sitting back,  
 And laughing, as you yelp.  
 Sure, they sold you real estate—  
 An acre for a buck—  
 Away out in the desert,  
 So, O. U. boys—you're stuck!  
 Russ Lee was the promoter,  
 Ben Perry loaned the "jack,"  
 Ray Smith would print the phoney  
 deeds,  
 Bob Robertson build the shack.  
 George Burch painted word pictures,  
 Made the future look so bright,  
 He'd get you all "hept up"—then say,  
 "The line forms on the right."  
 They got big hearted in one deal,  
 Threw in a bunch of thistle;  
 Tony Hookanson sure got cleaned—  
 All he had left, was a whistle.  
 Just what will be the outcome  
 We'll have to ask Paul Brackett.  
 So far, no one seems to know—  
 Could it be just a racket?  
 Harold Bicknell, the hotel manager,  
 Will never let you down,  
 Can tell the best stopping place,  
 Regardless of the town.  
 Fred Breylinger is a gentleman farmer;  
 Boy, how he likes to skoot,  
 While Dr. Arthur Barck, the dentist,  
 Would rather fish and shoot.  
 Civil Engineer, A. Koebig,  
 Can any big job plot,  
 And Charles Eckhart, the furnace man,  
 Can really make you hot.  
 Tony Hookanson asked Jimmie Mann  
 To a dinner of roast pork.  
 Jimmie said, "Sorry, I must hurry home,  
 We expect a visit from the stork."  
 We're glad to have Jack Adams  
 To present the men who talk  
 At our Masonic meetings,  
 'Cause there has been quite a squawk;  
 Someone was in error  
 When they let Lloyd Fruehling  
 Introduce the speaker,  
 'Cause the boys sure hit the ceiling.  
 An hour was allotted  
 To the speaker of the day,  
 The man had prepared elaborate notes,  
 He knew just what to say.  
 But Lloyd took three quarters of the  
 hour,  
 Like the head man in some church;  
 He just kept on a preachin',

And the speaker's name was Burch!  
 You've met Kenneth Ervin,  
 And no doubt, his brother "Joe";  
 Leland J., his given name,  
 And the Navy let him go.  
 He was getting too high toned.  
 Ship Fitter First Class—  
 Just a high brow name for plumber—  
 Guess Joe will let that pass.  
 James Haskell, Russell Collings,  
 Herman Graves and J. F. Clare,  
 Said "Just write anything you want,"  
 But brother, we don't dare.  
 Now Joseph Boylen tells us  
 We don't need to go to college.  
 He thinks that all we'll ever need,  
 Is just the Book of Knowledge.  
 It's difficult to write tonight,  
 Father Time has wielded his scythe,  
 And cut the Silver Cord—  
 It's not for us to reason why.  
 Brothers Harold Y. Stevenson,  
 M. C. Luke and Vernon Kent  
 All have left us  
 For that Undiscovered Land.  
 And, too, "Dad" just passed away—  
 It's hard to understand.  
 When the Supreme Grand Master  
 beckons  
 His call we all must heed.  
 We ask for the strength and comfort  
 That those left behind will need.  
 But life demands we carry on,  
 There's still a job to do.  
 And though at times it seems so hard,  
 We all must see life through.  
 There are three more Charter Members,  
 Who, to your attention we will call—  
 Albert Wilson, Frank H. Schepler,  
 And, of course, Harold Hall.  
 Harold donated the loud speaker  
 With this one request:  
 That it be used efficiently  
 To show the Masters at their best.  
 F. W. Earl is a druggist,  
 In Los Vegas, can be found.  
 Alec Adams is in the produce business,  
 Gets his stuff from the ground.  
 We've been wondering if H. S. Bishop,  
 Gilbert Bishop and Keith L. Herb  
 Were the three we saw the other night  
 A sitting on the curb  
 Discussing party politics,  
 In a heated sort of way,  
 When they were interrupted  
 By our Ralph H. Gray.  
 He sells lots out in the woods,  
 But politics comes first,  
 And if he isn't careful,  
 A blood vessel he might burst.  
 He, along with Russell Lee,  
 Are real estate men, first rank,  
 Is really quite a crank.  
 But Ralph, when it comes to politics,  
 Herbert Colby's firm just made a sign

For Tony's laundry stand—  
 "We do not tear clothes with  
 machinery—  
 We do it carefully by hand."  
 It will be good to see John Hauner,  
 And Eugene Weisel, too.  
 W. H. Reber and Donald Lindsay,  
 We send our best to you.  
 Glenn Phillips sells wholesale produce,  
 Harry Huntsman supplies the paper,  
 While Wm. Peuterbaugh is the boy  
 Who does a fancy caper.  
 He's known as the de luxe dancer,  
 His favorite, the dance of the bee;  
 From him the Lodge received  
 The murals, also the tapestry.  
 No, Ted Maurer is not a plumber,  
 Though lots of pipes he has;  
 They're Meerschams, Briars, Corn Cobs,  
 And some have rings of brass.  
 Reinie Hay has quite a lath house,  
 And in it lovely plants.  
 He likes to garden, hunt and fish,  
 And has a parrot too, that chants.  
 Jack O'Harra Smith  
 Of Sheriff's Posse fame,  
 As a chemical engineer  
 Has won quite a name.  
 William Jones, our Tiler,  
 Remembers the horse car day;  
 It's even rumored he surveyed  
 The company's right of way.  
 Elery Vernon is an old timer too;  
 Now we come to Lael C. Lee.  
 He's with the State Dept. of Agriculture,  
 And a grandpa, too, he be.  
 And, too, in our Lodge,  
 Is "Jerry" Lee, his son,  
 Which should illustrate the high  
 standing  
 That Masonry has won.  
 When a father feels his boy should join  
 A Lodge, and do his part,  
 We feel the organization must  
 Be in the ol' man's heart.  
 Royal G. Lowe, who owns his own plane  
 And flies with the Air Patrol,  
 Had the privilege of having his father  
 Raise him to his goal.  
 Dr. Louis Felsen is a specialist,  
 Dr. Chas. Bailey lives in Beverly Hills.  
 We're told they're regular fellows,  
 Though they keep passing out pills.  
 They say that Hatto Tappenbeck and  
 Frank Bernard were speaking Dutch;  
 William Ferrell tried to listen,  
 But couldn't catch on, too much.  
 It seems the boys were talking  
 While coming up the stairs,  
 How well V. E. Bradfield had done  
 The work in the different chairs.  
 Brad was Chaplain last year,  
 This year Marshal, Head Coach, too;  
 He is quite the Jack of All Trades—  
 Can do most any job for you.

"Tiny" Harold Meier,  
 Peanut King Supreme,  
 Also runs a malt shop—  
 It really is a scream,  
 The way he goes for business,  
 He stands out quite alone;  
 Now when he tries radio  
 He'll call on Carl A. Stone.  
 Alfred Cockerill is school principal,  
 We hear, way up in Redding.  
 He wrote about his school marms,  
 So "Bob" Robertson is heading  
 Up to look them over.  
 We suggest he takes Hearst Ross  
 To protect Alfred's interest,  
 And insure him against loss.  
 Our Senior Steward, Ben Perry,  
 Is powerful, though short;  
 You can always count on him to work,  
 And give a good report.  
 Dr. James Kittredge was honored,  
 By all the work was praised,  
 The 78th District did their stuff  
 The night when he was raised.  
 Now we have Hugh N. Cameron,  
 And Hugh John, his son.  
 Hugh N. is the Lodge jeweler,  
 And a good job he has done.  
 We've been told to get Ray Pinkerton  
 If we ever need a cook.  
 He is tops, is the report,  
 And he never used a book.  
 If there's anything you're needing,  
 That is, in a specialty way,  
 K. O. Dean will make it—  
 You see, K. O. is O. K.  
 J. L. Robertson, Clarence Myers  
 And William Douglas Lee,  
 Have got us, as the saying goes,  
 Tied up to a tree.  
 On Frank B. Shankel, Clarence Knoth,  
 And also Edward Boyd,  
 We've tried to get some scandal,  
 Even asked our old friend Lloyd.  
 Al Fishburn, L. Gaertner,  
 And John Kendall, too, are clear—  
 At least no fancy stuff about them  
 Has ever reached our ear.  
 Who's got some dope on Gene  
 Tompkins,  
 J. C. Rhinehart or M. J. Markel?  
 There ought to be at least one thing  
 That would be all right to tell.  
 So let us know some time  
 The different things you've heard  
 About a brother—A. F. Kneubel,  
 And also Francis Bird.  
 Hitch your wagon to a star,  
 Makes no difference what you are;  
 If you want another job  
 Charles A. Jeffery will hear you sob.  
 He's a little boy and has curly hair;  
 At U.S.E.S. sure you'll find him there.  
 An artist who loves the desert  
 And likes to hunt and fish,

Takes movies of his travels—  
 He will show them, if you wish.  
 Although he is a dentist,  
 To us he seems quite tame;  
 Of course you boys all know him,  
 Dean Carroll is his name.  
 Arthur B. Leonard,  
 Better known as "Bru,"  
 Visited us a while ago,  
 As he was going through.  
 He's going back to Washington,  
 May hit New York, too.  
 Say "hello" to Fred Walrod,  
 Will you Arthur, if you do?  
 William Wilson is an instructor  
 Of agriculture in our schools.  
 Arthur Schlanert, a former Marshal,  
 Who enforced the Lodge's rules;  
 Frank Burgan, with the School Board,  
 Checks up on the land.  
 We hope he's smart and isn't caught  
 Holding Russ Lee's bag of sand.  
 We were told Frank M. Wilson,  
 (But we don't know if it's true)  
 Is a First Class Petting Officer,  
 But the Waves know what to do.  
 Jack Adams is our program man,  
 And they've really been worth while;  
 Let's give the boy the glad hand  
 And greet him with a smile.  
 A boy stood on the burning deck—  
 Could it Francis Pelran be?  
 There is no doubt, 'cause he wrote about  
 The charming, cool, Red Sea.  
 He gave us the Wrought Gavel,  
 From Jerusalem it came;  
 His travels have been interesting,  
 Some were not so tame.  
 In the Salad Bowl, Salinas,  
 There's a contributor to the "Dip":  
 It's Edward Seifert—the lettuce king,  
 No charge, boys, for the tip.  
 Paul E. Thompson is an architect,  
 And a builder, we are told;  
 Irving Leigh can fix it  
 So you can get the needed gold.  
 Lloyd St. John is willing to supply  
 What every builder needs.  
 Dick Weaver will compete with Jim  
 To see who plants the seeds.  
 Raymond Thompson is Paul's brother,  
 An electrician in studio work;  
 He is on the Westerner Degree Team,  
 So his Lodge work he doesn't shirk.  
 We think we've missed our calling,  
 We should all have been a cop.  
 Look, all that Raleigh Neilson does  
 Is walk around and lop  
 The lovely trees upon his ranch  
 At Pico—it's not far,  
 While E. M. Taylor keeps us away  
 From our favorite movie star.  
 Rodolph Redmond, an accountant,  
 Has balanced the Lodge books,  
 And now they say he's studying law—

He must have what it took.  
 W. Gregory is the chairman  
 Of our committee to visit the sick;  
 Was Air Raid Warden, like George  
 Burch,  
 We'll change the subject quick.  
 Has it ever occurred to you  
 Just what is in a name?  
 No doubt there is a reason  
 For father and son to have the same.  
 We are thinking now of George A., Jr.  
 And George A. Davies.  
 And if you can enlighten us,  
 Please put our mind at ease.  
 Before Ray Smith will give you credit,  
 No doubt on you he'll check.  
 He knows how to get the dope—  
 He calls Joe Michalek.  
 William J. F. Hanes  
 Is better known as Ford;  
 It's not a boost for Laverty,  
 It's of his own accord.  
 Say, did you know that in our Lodge  
 We have King George's Honor  
 Guard?  
 In World War I, four battle stars,  
 And the guy is quite a card.  
 He says that he knows Lincoln—  
 Now Charlie, is that true?  
 Or is it just a Zephyr  
 That was blown to us by you?  
 Now about Carl Lauterwasser:  
 How does he get that way?  
 He's always pitchin' in to help,  
 But not a word to say.  
 Morris Guthrie is serving very well  
 With the Masonic Board of Relief,  
 And he has lots of work to do  
 With a certain Fire Chief.  
 We don't recall whether N. B. Challoner  
 Is fat or rather thin,  
 But we can't help but agree with him  
 When he says "Don't fence me in."  
 "Heinie" Heintzelmann lives in Oregon,  
 And loves to hunt and fish.  
 Venison served Maurice Gladson style  
 Is an extra special dish.  
 The next man we will write about  
 Will need no introduction—  
 His biggest worry seems to be  
 To increase milk production.  
 He explained a certain process  
 To us at Lodge one night,  
 Which, if confined to cattle,  
 Might work out all right.  
 Harold Wakefield is most generous,  
 And the Lodge he has supplied  
 With delicious milk and ice cream—  
 To him, praise is not denied.  
 We hope that James M. Johnson  
 Will soon be on the mend,  
 And that he too will find the time,  
 Our meetings to attend.  
 They say that R. H. Harris  
 Is the fellow they call "Red,"

And Tuesday night is the only night  
 He stays home and goes to bed.  
 Clifford Watson holds Captain's papers  
 For major ships at sea,  
 And can estimate repairs for same,  
 ' Be it bow, stern, port or lee.  
 At our Stated Meetings  
 We see Herbert Gustafson,  
 And Joseph Lowell should come collect  
 The attendance prize he's won.  
 We know David Davidson is an Elk,  
 But where is Merrill Butterfield?  
 He used to be quite active—  
 Could it be they've gone a-field?  
 Norman Odegaard is a fellow  
 That always seems right cool,  
 But have you noticed the cue end smoke  
 When he is playing pool?  
 And, when there's kitchen work to do,  
 You'll never hear him yelping;  
 Some extra coffee he will brew,  
 And pass out second helpings.  
 The list we have is most complete,  
 We may have missed a few,  
 But if we did, we're sorry,  
 And hope it wasn't you.  
 W. C. Ricord has helped to make  
 Our Christmas parties gay,  
 He's an executive at the studio,  
 And busy every day.  
 We understand R. E. Stevenson  
 Is an aircraft engineer,  
 And you can start relaxing,  
 'Cause the end of this is near.  
 Y stands for Yecsmen,  
 Last man, he used to be,  
 But now we have another chap,  
 And his name starts with Z.  
 Welcome, Brother Zillies,  
 You'll have soon your third degree,  
 And you shall have the signal honor  
 As end man—alphabetically.

Did you enjoy your dinner?  
 Your old friends did you greet?  
 Well, that's fine, we did too,  
 It really was a treat.  
 Our dinners are always excellent,  
 Because our cook is fussy,  
 She strives to please, we all attest,  
 We thank you Mrs. Bussey!  
 It is now our pleasure,  
 To present to you with pride,  
 Frederick E. Clark, our Inspector,  
 Who is always on our side.  
 Lee T. Mullen was Inspector  
 When the Lodge first got its start;  
 Inspector Emeritus Thomas A. Dille,  
 Has also done his part.  
 The installing officer at the Constitution  
 Of La Brea Lodge,  
 Was Samuel E. Burke, Past Grand  
 Master;  
 These four names we wouldn't dodge,  
 Because to them is due much credit  
 For the great work they have done.  
 They are truly fine; and we all know  
 In our hearts a place they've won.  
 And now as we conclude this  
 We'd like to ask a favor—  
 Make ours straight vanilla,  
 'Cause that's our favorite flavor.  
 We've tried to be most careful,  
 It's been a little task;  
 Hope you don't mind what we wrote,  
 Your kind indulgence, all we ask.  
 But, should you want our autograph,  
 You see, we're very shy.  
 It will cost you just one buck,  
 And here's the reason why.  
 There is a Homes Endowment Fund  
 That will get each buck we take;  
 So, though our name you may not want,  
 You can give the Fund a break.



### DO YOU REMEMBER THAT

In the Diplodocus, dated June, 1934, the menu for the Stated Meeting dinner, June 5, 1934, was as follows:

"Celery	Radishes
Breaded Pork Chops	
Scalloped Potatoes	Corn on the Cob
Green Vegetable Salad	
Hot Biscuits	
(The kind mother used to make)	
Ice Cream with Home-Made Cake	
Coffee	
(Cost FIFTY CENTS)"	



I wonder sometimes, whether in this "work-a-day world of ours," if we ever give very much thought as to what it meant to us, first when we were made an Entered Apprentice, second, a Fellowcraft, and finally a Master Mason, and perhaps you may find the answer for yourself in the following passage, for at least I did:

### CONFIDENCE

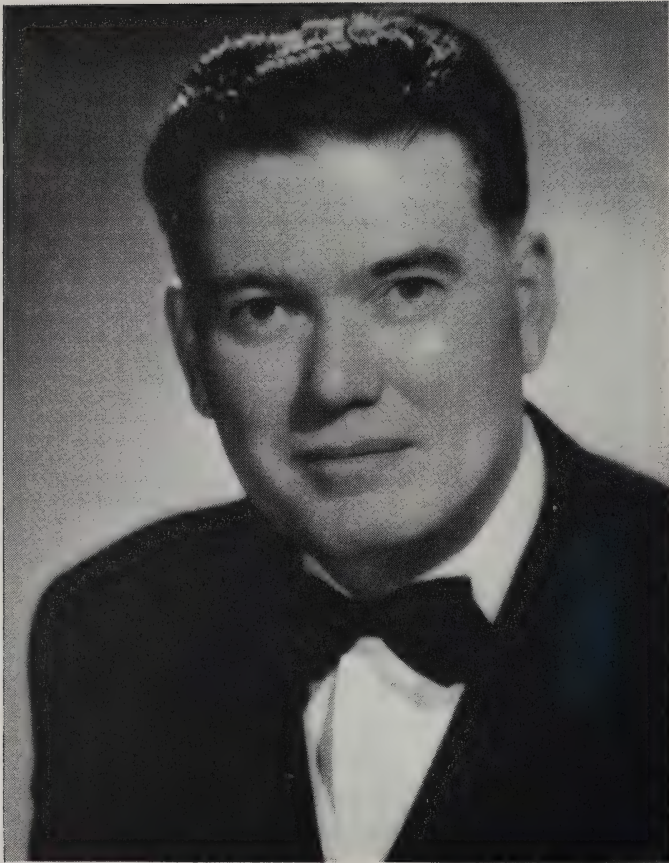
ENTERED APPRENTICE—Be CONFIDENT of YOURSELF. Inspire confidence and your Brethren will CONFIDE in YOU as they should. First, BE PREPARED in your own heart to become PROFICIENT in the work of this Degree. Be CAPABLE of performing efficiently ANY DUTIES assigned YOU. Show by YOUR FITNESS you are WORTHY to receive the Degree of

FELLOWCRAFT—The chances are in YOUR FAVOR, and you are ASSURED that after SURMOUNTING any obstacles you may have encountered in the Lectures of the preceeding Degree, with your mind on the work, and PROPER CONCENTRATION, the grade ahead can easily be made in "high." Like truth, your interest will out, and if you are possessed with CONFIDENCE, it is that FAITH in YOURSELF that invites the trust of your Brethren; and after YOU have DEMONSTRATED to the Worshipful Master and Brethren YOUR ELIGIBILITY you will be elevated to the Sublime Degree of

MASTER MASON—YOU are built for BIGGER THINGS and HIGHER DUTIES: the teachings in Masonic principles have no doubt INSTILLED in YOUR mind the LOVE of YOUR Fellow-man, and HIGHER IDEALS are ever before YOU. YOUR RESPONSIBILITIES have increased to your FAMILY, your NEIGHBOR and YOURSELF. Discharge that TRUST confident of the KNOWLEDGE gained through MASONIC ENLIGHTENMENT.

### A MASON

It has been said that "A Mason" is a believer in all good things; his life is symbolic of Masonic teachings. He meets you on the level of good fellowship, and parts with you upon the square. He is kindly and brotherly, yet demands absolute fidelity from his associates; not necessarily a leader of others but harmonious in righteous things. He is conscientious in his admonishment of wrongs; his grip is a sincere touch of brotherly affection. He is loyal to the fraternity, and is with you heart and soul in any lawful undertaking. He is master of himself, and painstaking in selecting the right road to pleasant and profitable living; he never shirks work but enters into it with all the zeal at his command, and never murmurs or complains if his brother is more fortunate in worldly goods. He conquers prejudice, superstition and hypocrisy, and holds within his heart no hatred for any living thing. He builds his temple of thought with the cement of brotherly love; he is honest with himself and considerate of others. He earns a little, and spends a little less; his family is happier for his presence, and keeps friends with his neighbor. His mission is to overcome the obstacles to life's just rewards with a determination and tireless energy to thoroughly, efficiently and permanently establish himself successfully in his work; and be an honor to the fraternity and hold the respect, admiration and love of his brethren.



CHARLES FINCHER LAVERTY  
Worshipful Master  
1946

## Chapter XX

Charles Fincher Lavery, so the records state, was born in Los Angeles, California. Most of you do not recognize our "affable Charlie" by the formal name appearing above, and hereafter, we will call him just "Charlie," although his wife calls him Charles.

Charles is a native son of California, and except for the two years which he spent in the army in World War I, in Texas and Europe, he has lived in Los Angeles and Southern California.

Charlie was elected to and was raised in La Brea Lodge in 1928, he being an "old timer."

Charlie married Evelyn Howard Grekel, and six children bless this happy union; Richard A. Lavery, William H. Lavery, Howard Grekel, Morris Grekel, Mrs. Sonia Deljian, and Mrs. Ruth Hynds. Charlie is running Ray Smith a close second, for the "mostest grand-children," there being five in all.

Charlie's entire business career had been connected with the Ford-Lincoln Mercury dealers, sales and service organizations, and during this span of years, he had his own agencies, both in Los Angeles and Oceanside.

Charlie enjoys the unique distinction of being the only member of the Lodge who served the Lodge as its Master, but who prior thereto demitted to another Lodge (Oceanside) and thereafter demitting back to La Brea Lodge.

Charlie had an interesting experience while serving the U. S. armed forces in World War I, but at the time it was not "funny." His unit was proceeding from Texas to Europe via Canada. In Detroit, his train was cut in two. He soon found himself in Canada, where his former commanding officer took his men out for exercise by marching through the town where their train was sidetracked. In the meantime, his commanding officer had called the roll in the U.S.A. and Charlie was missing. After some tall explaining, matters were finally straightened out—to the satisfaction of the "C.O."

### INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS

Many compliments have been received about the installation of officers for the year 1946, which was held at La Brea Lodge, the night of December 18, 1945. With Wm. T. Wheeling, P.M., as Installing Officer and Frederic E. Clark, P.M., as Master of Ceremonies, the newly elected and Appointive Officers, were installed in due form.

Charles Fincher Lavery . . . . .	Worshipful Master
Russell Lee . . . . .	Senior Warden
Anton Gottfred Hookanson . . . . .	Junior Warden
George Woodward Burch, Jr. . . . .	Treasurer
John William Swank . . . . .	Secretary
Emil Orvil Ostrom . . . . .	Chaplain
William James Mann . . . . .	Senior Deacon
Ben Jetson Perry . . . . .	Junior Deacon
Jack Munroe Adams . . . . .	Marshal

Robert Franklyn Burgan . . . . .	Senior Steward
Vesper Augustus Bradfield . . . . .	Junior Steward
William Edwin Jones . . . . .	Tiler
Charles Yecsman . . . . .	Organist

We find a few new faces in this line-up; not that he is a new officer, but we find our Junior Past Master, George W. Burch, Jr., being installed Treasurer, and Jack Munroe Adams, Marshal.

The Board of Trustees, for this year, comprised Frank E. Merrill, chairman, Ray S. Smith, and George W. Burch, Jr.

W. James Mann, again was re-appointed editor of the Diplodocus. Wendell Harvey, P.M., and who originally appointed George W. Burch, Jr., in the line of officers in 1939, and as Treasurer, ( Yes, I know that the Lodge elected him ), presented to Brother George and on behalf of the Lodge and its members, a Past Master's jewel, in the form of a diamond Past Master's ring, following which, Mrs. Julia Burch, was presented with a beautiful traveling bag from the members by Lloyd Fruehling.

Brother George somehow finds time to be active in the Los Angeles Scottish Rite as well as boy scout activities, and with it all he fills his spare time writing a history of the Lodge. As Treasurer for the year 1946, a Past Master and member of the Board of Trustees, La Brea continued to feel the wise and kindly influence of this fine brother. On his finger is a token of appreciation from his Brother Masons, which we know he will always wear with pleasure to himself and honor to the fraternity. Well done, Brother George, well done.

During the year, the following members were elected and those with an asterisk before their names were raised:

Anderson, Elmo H.	*Savage, William D.
Carlisle, Richard	*Seaman, Richard L.
*Christian, John R.	Stevenson, Wendell M.
*Claytor, Hartley R.	*Beeson, Jacob E.
*Cox, Raymond W.	*Benline, Robert C.
Helm, Charles W.	*Burke, Walter E.
Jutz, Harry F.	*Cowan Jr., Carl C.
Karlson, Gunnar T.	*Donaldson, John H.
Kenmore, Philip C.	*Jacob, Henry G.
McLean, Winsor W.	*Marsh, Robert D.
*Palmer, John B.	*Murphy, Clifford M.
Priest, Jock I. C.	*Swartz, George C.
Reed, Hoyt	*Veatch, Wayne O.
*Ruddy, Oscar W.	*Zelles, Emmet O.

Dick Kitchen, during the year, affiliated with La Brea Lodge.

During the year of 1946, the war rationing of food still presented quite a problem. In this connection, Mrs. Evelyn Laverty proved to be a great help in seeing that all food for the stated meetings was purchased and delivered to the Lodge banquet room on time.

To Mrs. Laverty also goes the credit for the decorated tables in the banquet rooms following the installation ceremonies.



Among the very interesting programs were the following:

Verner Fensch, who related his experiences as a prisoner of the Japanese.

Jeff Cravath, coach at U. S. C.

Victor Mendelson, "Romance of Glass."

Dr. James Whitcomb Brougher.

Jack Booth, "It's Your Merchant Marine."

Ralph Head, Chairman of the Masonic Board of Relief.

1946 also saw La Brea on the Honor Roll of Grand Lodge with their highest contribution to the Homes Endowment Fund.

Charlie Laverty devoted much time over many years promoting the La Brea picnics, following P.M. "C. B." Goodridge's original suggestion, and many happy hours followed when he, with George Burch, P.M. 1945, prepared for these events.



### LA BREA'S ANNUAL PICNIC 1946

"June the ninth has been set aside as our picnic day,  
Be sure that you come early, and late you will want to stay.  
It will be a day of merriment—another big ball game,  
And when the battle's over, you may never be the same.  
George Burch will lead the P.M.s, and you should hear them brag,  
How they will beat the younger guys, at playing ball or tag.  
Russ Lee will head the other team—they say that they'll play fair.  
You won't want to miss this, so be sure that you are there.  
The horseshoe pitching champion, his laurels will depend,  
With what success—we wouldn't guess, on it you may depend?  
We'll have lots of games for you to play, you can even run a race,  
Right now it's most important to remember the date and at what place.  
We'll have ice cream for the kiddies, and also lots of punch  
And maybe 'Peanut' Meier will have some nuts for you to crunch.  
The date we said was June ninth, the place is Sherwood Lake,  
So pack your lunch and family and the friends you want to take.  
Now if you have not a car or a ride you would like to share  
Just speak up and we'll arrange a way to get you there.  
Next—someone will have a map or description of some kind,  
To help you locate La Brea 650, so keep the date in mind."



During the year the Lawrence C. Kelley chapter of the De Molay order was organized under the sponsorship of the Miracle Mile Masonic Club, which is composed of members of James A. Garfield, Henry S. Knox and La Brea Masonic Lodges. Some of the members of La Brea Lodge who participated in its organization were Dick Weaver, Dick Kitchen, Norman Odegaard, Vesper Bradfield, Harold Bicknell, Jack Adams, Cliff Harbes, and Jim Kittridge. Some of you may not know that the Order of De Molay has for its purpose the teaching of clean and upright living and its supreme effort is to create leaders and develop character. It does not attempt to take the place of the home or the church but rather to supplement it. Its members must have attained 14 years of age and be under 21, and to qualify for membership the applicant must have a father, brother, uncle or grandfather who is a Master Mason in good standing.

Bob Robertson, P.M. and George W. Burch, Jr., P.M. organized a Grand Fathers' Club, the aim being to have the newest grandfather buy the dinner for the other members. "Me thinks" that the organizers had "larceny" in their souls, as the organizers usually come out with "whole skins," but some unsuspecting "grand-pa," will, in a moment of weakness, be promoted for a free dinner.

It came to our attention during the year that P.M. William H. Parcels, Commander in the United States Navy, was promoted to Captain and Bill certainly was deserving of this merited increase in rank.

Someone during the year, and we suspect it was W. James Mann, paid the following tribute to:

#### OUR JUNIOR PAST MASTER

"George W. Burch, Jr., retiring Master of La Brea Lodge, gave much to the betterment and welfare of his lodge. In a war-weary year, replete with rationing and synthetics, inflation and shortages, he surmounted every obstacle and completed a most successful term. He ironed out many problems, put the lodge in a sound financial condition and more candidates were raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason during his year than any previous one. Although, many members were in the service and others were employed at night in war industries, George found ways of attracting more of the brothers to lodge so that a better than average attendance was maintained. Furthermore, he won the respect and cooperation of the Past Masters and his messages in the Diplodocus were instructive and inspiring. His ability and devotion to the principles of Masonry was recognized outside La Brea when he was elected President of the Seventy-Eighth Masonic District Officers' Association, as well as his appointment to the important Jurisprudence Committee of Grand Lodge.

"Few realize the responsibility and personal sacrifice the office of Master demands, but despite this, George was ever willing to stretch forth a helping hand."

#### ANNUAL MUSTER

La Brea's twentieth Annual Muster was held Tuesday evening October 22, 1946. A goodly turn out of 123 of our members assembled on this occasion. During the year, our beloved "C. B." Goodridge, P.M., passed to the great beyond, and a stirring tribute was paid to his memory by W. J. Harvey, P.M.

Charles Benjamin Goodridge was raised, June 30, 1921; was installed Master in 1935, and was laid to rest on October 3, 1946. Masonic services were conducted by Wm. T. Wheeling, P.M., who was assisted by John W. Swank, P.M. If memory fails me not, "C. B." was the 26th member on the rolls of La Brea Lodge, missing by one of being included in the charter members. It is impossible to put into words the many deeds "Cee Bee" had been instrumental in accomplishing for the Blue Lodge which he loved so well. Those of us who through the years had the privilege of serving him while La Brea Lodge was still in its formative stage, can point with pride to the Diplodocus, for it was none other than "Cee Bee" who was editor for several years and did such a fine job that the publication has carried on and still maintains the same degree of interest with which it was started.

The annual picnic, as well as the children's Christmas party were other ideas for which "Cee Bee" fought to inaugurate for many years. This idea later was carried through and has since become one of the events of the life

of La Brea Lodge, that all members and their families annually look forward to with a great deal of joy.

The pedestal and lights, the picture of George Washington, and many other items will constantly remind us of the many good deeds which "Cee Bee" did for La Brea Lodge.



### PAST MASTERS' NIGHT

On the evening of November 26, 1946, the Past Masters, under the direction of George W. Burch, Jr., conferred a Third Degree, in their "inimical and interesting manner," some might even say it was given in short form.



### A MASON'S CREED

We meet upon the level and we part upon the square;  
By acting by the plumb, we're known as Masons everywhere.  
We wear the lambskin apron, its color snowy white  
To keep our minds receptive to all that's pure and right.  
The obligations that we take while kneeling at the altar  
Should always keep us in the right if we're inclined to falter.  
The letter "G" up in the East, the initial of our Grand Master  
Should always shine before our eyes and keep us from disaster.  
All the lessons we are taught in this great work of ours,  
Should guide our every footstep and guard us throughout the hours.  
And when our work on earth is done, and we've been laid to rest,  
If we've obeyed the lessons taught us here, they'll know we've done our best.  
And we'll not be afraid to meet the Master of that great lodge up there,  
If we've met upon the level and parted on the square.



### IF YOU LIKE HIM LET HIM KNOW IT

If with pleasure you are viewing any work a man is doing,  
If you like him or you love him, tell him now;  
Don't withhold your approbation 'till the parson makes oration  
As he lies with snowy lilies o'er his brow;  
For no matter how you shout it, he won't really care about it;  
He won't know how many teardrops you have shed;  
If you think some praise is due him, now's the time to slip it to him;  
For he cannot read his tombstone when he's dead!

More than fame and more than money is the comment kind and sunny  
And the hearty warm approval of a friend;  
For it gives to life a savor, and it makes you stronger, braver,  
And it gives you heart and spirit to the end;  
If he earns your praise, bestow it; if you like him let him know it;  
Let the words of true encouragement be said;  
Do not wait till life is over and he's underneath the clover,  
For he cannot read his tombstone when he's dead.

From "Dripped from the Stream"



RUSSELL LEE  
Worshipful Master  
1947



## Chapter XXI

Russell Lee, who at one time was mistaken for George W. Burch, Jr., before George was required to reduce that is, was installed as Master of La Brea Lodge for the Masonic Year 1947.

Russ was a native son of the state of Nebraska. He was one of ten children, eight of whom lived to adulthood. He was born June 20, 1902, on a cattle ranch north of Edison, Nebraska, in a typical dugout. A dugout being "a shelter or a primitive dwelling excavated as in a hillside." This kind of shelter was the customary type of home constructed by many of the earlier pioneers or settlers in the early days on the plains of the Middle West because of the lack of available lumber and other building materials.

He attended the grade and high schools in Furnas County, Nebraska. Although he was an average student, he won several prizes in art work at the county fair during his high school career. After finishing high school Russ went to Chicago, Illinois, to live and attend the University. He was graduated from Northwestern Business College in 1921 and went to work for the Home Bank and Trust Co., Chicago, Illinois, which was the start of his business career. He came to California in 1923 and has lived here ever since.

During his childhood he had several experiences which he likes to tell about, one of which happened when he was about four years of age. There was a terrific rainy period which produced a flood. The family lived in a wooded area near the Republican River. The river overflowed its banks and the family was cut off from the main highway. Considerable concern developed for the safety of the family and the neighbors met to discuss ways and means of rescue. They stretched ropes across the trees to assist them in passing through the swift water to the Lee home. The members of the family who were at home at the time were Russ, his brother Seibert, a sister and his father and mother. All were placed in a small boat and after a harrowing experience, the swift waters were negotiated through the efforts of about twelve husky men who were good swimmers and who had been delegated to perform the task of rescue. Russ recalls the experience and often wonders what would have happened if the boat had gotten away from the men.

Russ was fond of ice skating, and one moonlight night in the late winter he decided to go skating alone. He went to the river, put on his skates and skated around a horseshoe bend in the river, returning near his home. The next morning his mother awakened him and told him to get up and watch the ice break up in the river. The night had been balmy which produced enough thaw to permit the river ice to break. Russ states that he must have skated on enough thin ice to last him a lifetime.

In 1925 Russell was united in marriage to Clara Bradley who was a native of Canada. The marriage was the first in the Santa Ana Country Club and was performed by Rev. Benson of the Episcopal Church at Santa Ana, and the wedding was attended by Bishop W. Bertrand Stevens. From this union there was born two children: William Grant Lee and Virginia Ann Lee,

and Bill has two children, Susanne Elizabeth Lee and Mark Bradley Lee. Virginia has two children also, twins, Kathleen and Kristeen Kerrigan.

Russ was employed by the Security-First National Bank in 1923 and progressed through various departments at the bank to the position of assistant trust officer and assistant manager of the Long Beach Branch of the trust department of the bank. He resigned his position in 1937 and went to work for the Walter H. Leimert Co. and since that time has been vice-president and general manager of the company. During his career as a banker and as a real estate broker, Russell studied law and holds a certificate issued by the American Banking Institution. He has held the office of secretary of the Westside Land Company, Westmore Land Company and Lakeshore Highlands Company. He has also held office and served on the board of directors of the Leimert Park Community Association, Beverlywood Homes Association, Baldwin Village Gardens Homes Association, Beverly Highlands Homes Association and the Las Flores Masonic Temple Association. He has been active in the community affairs of the Crenshaw district for several years, having been a member of the board of directors of the Crenshaw Chamber of Commerce and the Crenshaw Community Center, Inc.

In addition to claiming a relationship to Robert E. Lee, his ancestry dates back and qualifies him for membership in the Sons of the American Revolution.

Russ has been a long-time friend of George W. Burch, Jr., and his favorite pastime is playing jokes on George and competing with him in card games. While George preceded Russell through the officers line, it was Russell's good fortune to attend Grand Lodge before George. When they attended Grand Lodge in 1948, they arranged to room together. Russ claims he never experienced such snoring as was produced by George, and in an endeavor to curtail this annoyance, Russ awakened George one night out of a sound sleep and George virtually jumped out of the window of the hotel. If you want to hear the amusing version of this event, simply ask George about it and you will get a very peculiar story. However, Anton Hookanson will verify Russ's statement of the facts, as he was there.

#### INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS

Tuesday, December 17, 1946, the officers for the ensuing Masonic Year were duly installed under the guiding hand of Lee T. Mullen, as Installing Officer, with Frederic E. Clark, as Master of Cermonies. The following elective and appointive officers were duly installed:

Russell Lee . . . . .	Worshipful Master
Anton Gottfred Hookanson . . . . .	Senior Warden
William James Mann . . . . .	Junior Warden
George Woodward Burch, Jr. . . . .	Treasurer
John William Swank . . . . .	Secretary
Ray Selvester Smith . . . . .	Chaplain
Ben Jetson Perry . . . . .	Senior Deacon
Robert Franklyn Borgan . . . . .	Junior Deacon
Clifford Harold Harbes . . . . .	Marshal
Vesper Augustus Bradfield . . . . .	Senior Steward
Emil Orvil Ostrom . . . . .	Junior Steward
William Edwin Jones . . . . .	Tiler

The august Board of Trustees was comprised of Ray S. Smith, Chairman, George W. Burch, Jr. and Charles F. Laverty.

With the advent of this year, Emil O. Ostrom took over the editorship of the Diplodocus, having served as assistant editor under Jimmie Mann for a number of years. Russell as Master and Emil as Editor worked hard to make the Diplodocus a Masonic educational, newsworthy bulletin. The monthly issues reflect the effort put in and records much history for this Masonic year.

The retiring Master, Charles F. Laverty, was presented with a Past Master's ring from the members of La Brea Lodge and his helpmate, Evelyn Laverty, in turn, was presented with an appropriate gift from the members of La Brea Lodge.

During the year, the following were elected, and those with an asterisk before their names were raised:

\*Adams, Joseph O.  
Anderson, George A.  
\*Branch, Ernest C.  
Fleming, John R.  
\*Funk, William L.  
\*Parrish, Homer O.  
Raidt, George C.  
\*Seland, Richard N.

Spear, Dana M.  
\*Teeuw, John W.  
Uhlik, Robert V.  
Steele, Charles P.  
\*Anderson, Elmo H.  
\*Helm, Charles W.  
\*Kenmore, Philip C.

William C. F. West was elected by affiliation from another Masonic Lodge.

#### OUR JUNIOR PAST MASTER

Charles Fincher Laverty, who succeeded George W. Burch, Jr. to the position of Junior Past Master, can look back over his year in the East, knowing that he had completed a very successful term. At his installation in 1945, he stated he would make no promises but he would do his best to do a good job. His hope—or rather prayer—was that this year, “. . . thus begun in order, could be conducted in peace and closed in harmony.” To this, we can all attest. During the year 1946, eighteen new Master Masons' names were inscribed on the by-laws of La Brea Lodge. Three courtesy degrees, one for Point Loma Lodge in San Diego, one for York Lodge in Nebraska, and the other for Anchorage Lodge in Alaska, were bestowed during the year. Charles proved to us that he possessed sound judgment and he developed into a fine impromptu speaker. We salute you, Charles Fincher Laverty, and thank you for a good job well done.

#### YOUR MASONIC HOMES

Much effort was put forth during Russell's year as Master to create an interest in the Masonic Homes and as a result the Lodge was placed on the Honor Roll for contributions to the endowment fund.

The Masonic Home for adults at Decota in Alameda County, near Oakland, comprises 267½ acres. The improvements consist of an administration building, dormitories, hospital and lodge room. The home can accommodate four hundred senior citizens.

The Masonic Home for children at Covina, in Los Angeles County, comprises thirty-five acres. The improvements consist of an administration building, dormitories, dairy, orange and lemon groves, swimming pools, tennis courts, hospital and shop for vocational training. The home can accommodate 198 children.

While the requirements for admission into these Homes varies in details from year to year, yet there are certain basic qualifications. Those eligible for the Home at Decota are dependent Master Masons, who for three or more



years have been members in good standing of Lodges in this jurisdiction; widows of Master Masons, who are eligible for admission or who, if deceased, were eligible at the time of their deaths; dependent normal children over four years and under fourteen years, provided the father was eligible for admission. All applications are subject to the approval of the Board of Trustees.

The Homes are administered by the Grand Lodge of California through a corporation known as the "Masonic Homes of California." The corporate powers are vested in a board of nine trustees, consisting of the Deputy Grand Master, the Senior and Junior Grand Wardens, and six members appointed by the Grand Master, three from lodges in the vicinity of Decota and three from lodges in the vicinity of Covina.

The homes are supported by a fee of \$25.00 from every candidate, an annual per capita assessment on the membership and by the income from the Endowment Fund.

Each year the Masonic Homes Trustees render a report to Grand Lodge and reference is made to these reports for detailed information as to income and cost of operating these homes.

The Masonic Homes Endowment Fund was created by Grand Lodge in 1910. The Masonic Homes Endowment Board was formed to enlighten the Brethren regarding the work and needs of the homes and to afford an opportunity for the Brethren to make special contributions for the support of the homes. In short, the purpose of the Board is "to study, devise and carry out plans for securing an adequate endowment for the Masonic Homes of California." At present the Board consists of fifteen members, representing all parts of the State. The Chairman is Dr. Ernest G. Bashor of Los Angeles and he was still chairman as of the date of the publication of this history.

Purpose of the Fund: To supplement the funds provided by Grand Lodge for the support of the homes and to provide a definite source of income in times of depression or of inflation or of special need.

Masons may contribute by contributions of money or other gifts, such as bonds, stocks, real and personal property; by insuring their lives in favor of the Homes; by making bequests. The legal title to all property so vested in the corporation and all bequests, gifts and devises intended for either home should be made to "Masonic Homes of California, a corporation." The proper form therefor in a Will is: "I give and bequeath to the Masonic Homes of California, a corporation, the sum of \$ \_\_\_\_\_, to become a part of its Endowment Fund."

Reference is made to the Constitution and Regulations relative to the manner and how the funds are invested.

#### PAST MASTERS NIGHT

Many interesting programs were arranged during the Masonic year 1947 through the efforts of the Master and Past Master, George Burch, Jr. An able speaker or a special program was provided for each Stated Meeting. Special mention is only made of the Past Masters Night and Annual Muster.

On Tuesday, September 30, 1947, eleven Past Masters and our Secretary Emeritus were present and proved their ability in conferring the sublime degree of Master Mason on Brother William L. Funck. Congratulations were in order to the P.M.'s for their work: Wm. T. Wheeling, Wm. H. Parcels, Ted A. Heinold, W. Lloyd Laumann, Frank F. Merrill, Ray S. Smith, George W. Burch, Jr., Jo D. Hurd, W. E. Robertson, Charles F. Laverty and John W. Swank.



## ANNUAL MUSTER

The Editor of the Diplodocus evidently neglected his duties, because we find no mention in the Bulletin of an Annual Muster.

By falling back on the Secretary's record, we find that this festive occasion was held on October 28, 1947, and our guest of honor was Brother Roy C. Bryan, Past Master of Cahuenga Lodge, No. 513, Chairman of Grand Lodge Committee on Necrology.



## FAREWELL MESSAGE

Russell's love for Masonry and his lodge is better expressed in his last message to the membership as follows:

"November 20, 1947, marks the close of another Masonic year. It is fitting and proper that at this time a review of our lodge activities during the past year be submitted to the membership.

"Seventeen petitioners have been received by the lodge, including one affiliation. Most of the petitioners have received their third degrees, while all the others are progressing in an orderly manner. This has been a pleasant year of work and while we have not raised as many candidates as in some other years, it has been better than most of the years during the existence of our lodge. The future of Masonry does not lie simply in the increase of numbers, but rather in the dissemination of Masonic principles throughout the world; therefore, quality of membership and not quantity should be our continued policy.

"The program of accomplishment has been strong and steady. The officers of our lodge have worked diligently to produce educational and interesting programs at all our meetings. The record speaks for itself by the attendance and interest shown by the membership.

"If you will read again the monthly issues of the Diplodocus you will note the number and nature of the meetings we have held. You will appreciate the high type of speakers who have given freely of their time to convey messages concerning Masonry, public affairs affecting us as citizens, information about our public schools, our children and our responsibilities concerning their welfare, our government, and last but not least our 'Constitution.'

"Our special events were enthusiastically received by all who attended and stated that they had a good time. These included our Christmas Party, Family Night, Annual Picnic, Past Masters Night and our Annual Muster.

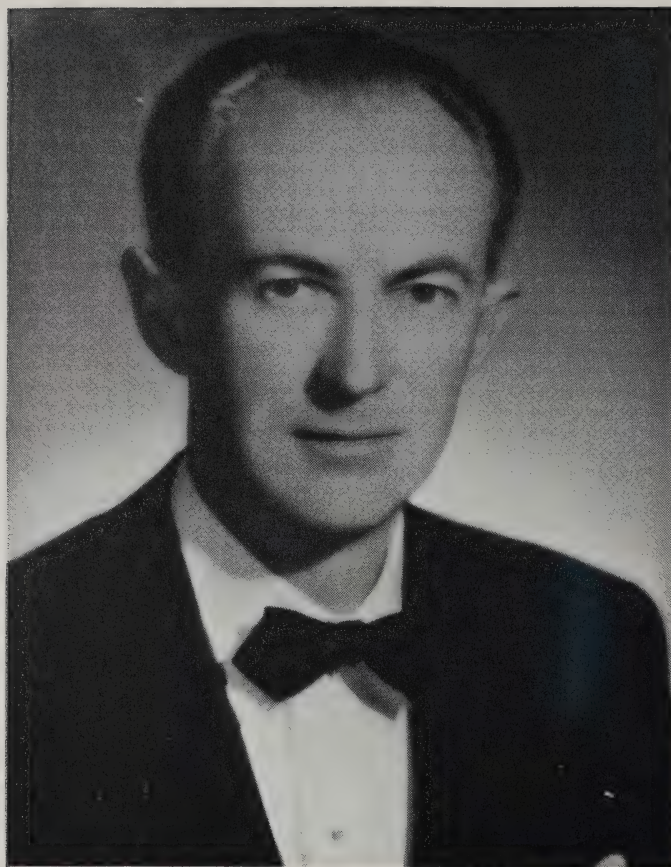
"Among the goals accomplished this year was "OVER THE TOP" subscription to our Endowment Fund. La Brea Lodge was again placed on the Honor Roll at Grand Lodge for having subscribed more than \$2.00 per member to our Masonic Homes Endowment Fund.

"The Master is extremely grateful to all the Brethren for their splendid cooperation and support. No one could be Master of La Brea Lodge without feeling a stronger tie of brotherly love and affection for his brother members. The warm friendships which are formed, the kind words of encouragement, the offers of assistance and the sincere good wishes all produce a feeling of appreciation so difficult to express that mere words are too inadequate.

"While I have endeavored to do my best, I feel that it is not enough and regret that I could not have done more, but my record must stand for what it is worth."

Fraternally yours,

RUSSELL LEE,  
Master.



ANTON GOTTFRED HOOKANSON  
Worshipful Master  
1948

## Chapter XXII

Anton Gottfred Hookanson, so his parents called him, but better known to us as "Tony" was born in Los Angeles, California, on April 13, 1903, being one of the few native sons to be elected Master of La Brea Lodge.

Tony is the product of sterling Swedish stock, and from an early age he has been familiar with the laundry business, and his major activity has, during his adult years, been connected with the Bristol Laundry, which was founded by his father and partner in 1905.

Tony graduated from Jefferson High School, and prior to becoming associated with his father, he did accounting work.

Tony was led to join La Brea Lodge in 1927, due to his great admiration and respect for a cousin.

He, contrary to many of us, considers No. 13 to be a lucky number; he married Joy Edna Jeffrey, on November 13, 1927; his birthday being on the 13th as well as that of his wife; they had their first date on the 13th and they live on lot 13 on their tract. In 1930 they were blessed with their daughter, Carol Joy, and her growth and education has been a source of pleasure to them, and her marriage has given them a son-in-law of whom they are equally proud.

He is no slouch as a baseball and tennis player. In more recent years he has taken up gardening and photography.

Tony has received recognition in his chosen profession, and at the present time he is a Director of the Los Angeles Laundry Association.

### NEW OFFICERS INSTALLED

The twenty-second Installation of officers of La Brea Lodge was held Tuesday evening, December 16, 1947. Our good friend Lee T. Mullen was the Installing Officer, and Frederic E. Clark was our Master of Ceremonies. Under their able guidance, the following elective and appointive officers were installed for the ensuing Masonic Year:

Anton Gottfred Hookanson . . . . .	Worshipful Master
William James Mann . . . . .	Senior Warden
Ben Jetson Perry . . . . .	Junior Warden
George W. Burch, Jr., P.M. . . . .	Treasurer
John W. Swank, P.M. . . . .	Secretary
Ray S. Smith, P.M. . . . .	Chaplain
Robert Franklyn Burgan . . . . .	Senior Deacon
Vesper Augustus Bradfield . . . . .	Junior Deacon
Merrill Fenton Bates . . . . .	Marshal
Emil Orvil Ostrom . . . . .	Senior Steward
Clifford Harold Harbes . . . . .	Junior Steward
William Edwin Jones . . . . .	Tiler

The Board of Trustees consisted of George W. Burch, Jr., Chairman, assisted by Charles F. Laverty and Russell Lee. Emil O. Ostrom was persuaded to handle the Diplodocus for another year.

Russ, on the occasion of the Installation, was presented with a Past Master's Ring (of his own choosing, as has been true of all other P.M.'s) and his good wife, Clara, was presented with an appropriate gift from the members of La Brea Lodge. In addition, Lee T. Mullen presented Russ with the world famous walking stick which had its initiation at the 1947 session of Grand Lodge in San Francisco. Russ, John Swank and George W. Burch, Jr. were all equipped with a walking stick while at Grand Lodge and invoked considerable comment. Ray Smith, P.M., who was also in attendance, was induced to buy a cane with a "red tip."

During the year the following were elected, and those with an asterisk before their names were raised:

- |                       |                     |
|-----------------------|---------------------|
| *Arnason, Ralph       | *Bieber, Harry      |
| *Christensen, John E. | *Carlisle, Richard  |
| Coburn, Robert J.     | *McLean, Winsor W.  |
| *Doremus, Richard H.  | *Raidt, George C.   |
| *Hobbs, Joseph W.     | *Reed, Hoyt         |
| Nicoll, James R. P.   | *Spear, Dana M.     |
| Scapanite, Andrew O.  | *Uhlik, Robert V.   |
| Smith, William R.     | *Steele, Charles P. |
| Thorpe, Howell D.     | *Fleming, John R.   |
| Belser, Jack E.       |                     |

#### OUR JUNIOR PAST MASTER

The hands of fellowship extended to our new Junior Past Master as he stepped down from the Master's Chair to become a "P.M.," recalls to memory the day when Russ started to take his degree. A lot of water has passed under the bridge; since that time many sad and happy events have happened among the members of the Lodge.

We recall that Russ learned his work readily, passed a very satisfactory examination, served well and faithfully on all committees to which he was appointed and became a true and faithful officer. He has always been well liked among his fellow members, and has always taken a lead in various Lodge activities. On our trips to Grand Lodge, we have, perhaps, become better acquainted with Russ, for it was here that we labored, played, ate and traveled together.

#### LODGE QUARTERS

During the year, the management of the building, where we have met since La Brea was organized in 1926, out of the clear sky, notified us that they required the occupancy of the entire building and that they regretted to inform us that we could only expect to remain in our present quarters for a limited period. Brother George W. Burch, Jr., P.M., and Bob Robertson, P.M., were appointed a committee to arrange for new Lodge quarters, both temporary as well as permanent. These brothers devoted long hours to these purposes, and they brought together representatives of Henry Knox and L. A. 42 Masonic Lodges, Wil-Brea, Larchmont and Holly Vista chapters of the Order of Eastern Star, and the Amaranth chapter and organized a non-profit corporation under the name of Las Flores Masonic Temple Association, with Brother George as its first President. As the result of their efforts, plans were culminated which resulted in the erection of the Masonic structure at Flores Avenue and Beverly Blvd., in the City of Los Angeles, on 8338 Beverly Boulevard, and at which location the Lodge, commencing in the year of 1949, has met ever since, or at least up to the time this history went to press.



## OUR TRUSTEES

La Brea Lodge possesses three Trustees; what their duties are, no one knows—they do not know themselves—to the memory of the oldest members, not one meeting can be remembered. Apparently, this is a place to vote in the out-going Master so that he feels as though he had been elected to something. Seriously, though, it has always been my thinking, that this committee should be used to handle such problems of the Lodge, as the Worshipful Master might from time to time assign them, as certainly under present conditions their talents are wasted.

Someone wrote an article in the Diplodocus to the effect that for the year 1948, we had Three Trustees, known familiarly as the "Beef Trust," because it consisted of three well fed members, all hitting the scale at quite a figure—by figure I mean pounds. These Trustees were listed in the Diplodocus as follows: George Washington ('taint true) Burch, Charles Ford ('tis true) Lavery and Russell Quong Lee (how true). We understand that George originally hailed from Owensmouth—ever heard of it? It used to be the terminal of the Pacific Electric's Van Nuys-Owensmouth line, now known as Canoga Park. George received some education here and then he journeyed North—no, not to Grand Lodge, but to Palo Alto, near the University of California, Northern Branch, where, nestled in the beautiful coast range, is one of the most beautiful colleges on the coast, Stanford. Here is where he received his education to become an attorney. The writer of the article further stated that George was patient, kind, understanding and yet with it all, the ability to fight like a wildcat when necessary, and that he had made good in his profession and that everyone was proud to class him as a member of La Brea Lodge.

## MOVING DAY

Towards the middle of the year, and with a great deal of sadness, for it had been our first and only home, we moved from our commodious Lodge quarters, at Wilshire and La Brea Avenue, and through the courtesy of West Lake Masonic Lodge, La Brea and Henry Knox Masonic Lodges, were welcomed and were afforded the use of the Masonic Lodge facilities of this wonderful Lodge, rent free, and we are indeed indebted to them, as rental space could not be obtained at any price. Let us always remember Westlake Lodge and the Masonic Charity which it extended to us in our greatest hour of need.

## ANNUAL MUSTER

For the first time in our history, our Annual Muster, which was held on October 26th, 1948, was held in a Temple, which was not our home, at West Lake Masonic Lodge. The subject uppermost in all of our minds, was "what did the future hold for La Brea Lodge," or at least where were we to meet, and indeed it was to the great relief of all concerned to know that plans had been completed for the erection of a Masonic edifice at 8338 Beverly Blvd.

## DEDICATION OF OUR NEW LODGE TEMPLE

On Friday afternoon, November 12th, 1948, our new Lodge Building was officially dedicated with a ground breaking ceremony which was attended by a large number of the officers and members of the various interested organizations. The Master of Ceremonies was our own George Burch. He called on Ray Smith, P.M., to give the invocation, and then presented the Worshipful Inspectors, Frederic E. Clark of our 78th District, and Roy Bryan of the

77th District, who in turn gave very fine dedication speeches. Dr. Dean Carroll recorded the entire ceremony in colored motion pictures, and these pictures, we trust, in course of time, will become a part of our Lodge library.



As the year of 1948 comes to an end, Tony, like all Masters of the "past," probably gave forth with THE PLAINT OF A JUNIOR PAST MASTER TO BE, which goes something like this:

I'm feeling very bad,  
Like a disappointed cad;  
It's really very sad—  
And that's not all!

All the boys are going up,  
And there's nothing in the cup  
For this lonesome little pup—  
And that's not all!

Yes, they're moving up today,  
All along the line and way;  
And I'm hoping while I pray—  
And that's not all!

When they're showing off up there,  
In their tux and shiny hair,  
I'll get bald and lose my hair—  
And that's not all!

I'll be missing 'em, that's sure,  
But I'll take the "lonesome cure,"  
And be able to endure—  
And that's not all!

## HEART TO HEART

We should not be too quick to judge the actions of a brother. His motives are not always visible to the casual observer.

New and fresh ideas alone can regenerate and renew us. We should always keep our eyes to the "east," facing the "three great lights of Masonry." Let us turn our backs to the darkness of the past.

There are only shadows in the "far north," while in the east, south and west we see light—Masonic enlightenments.

When we think and act in accordance with Masonic Teachings, there will be no fearful or hateful thoughts or feelings in us. Masonic thought and love of our brother should govern and direct us.

Those who set themselves up as detectors of flaws in the characters of those with whom they are associated are usually persons who would not know the good if they found it.

Many people are so personal in their criticism that they seem to bind one to some negative condition from which he can never make his escape. This may be the reason some of us have hesitated or refrained from becoming "efficiency experts."

When we praise another, we help him to magnify and to increase his good qualities. Finally he becomes so interested in bringing forth the good in himself that he loses all inclination to be adverse.

Man develops from within outward. In the seed idea of man lies all possibilities for perfect understanding.

When we give up the tendency to look to the past, we prepare ourselves for the good which is ours today.

We need but to turn our eyes from the shadows of the past to see the guiding light ahead of us.

Adverse conditions come about through adverse thought. We should become assured that good is the eternal verity of life that evil becomes nothing.



## DO YOU KNOW YOUR BROTHER

Occasionally the embarrassing situation arises when some member, who has not attended Lodge for many months, or even years, appears at one of our meetings and is asked to what Lodge he belongs (yes, this has happened all too often in La Brea Lodge).

This situation is the occasion for the unusual heading of this article, and prompts the writer to urge that those who attend regularly take in charge the stranger and introduce him around the Lodge, even introduce him to a game or two in the recreation room where the fellowship of the members will make him feel at home. Some members are prone to let the officers do the gracious host act, but on degree nights, as well as on stated meeting nights, most of the officers are quite busily engaged in the work to be taken care of that evening and have very little time to spend in introductions.

For many years La Brea was noted for its hospitality; that same feeling to the visitors, as well as our members who do not attend regularly, should be cultivated again.

The older members will remember that in years past, we have had many men who have made ours their Masonic home in Los Angeles while retaining membership in their home Lodges.



WILLIAM JAMES MANN  
Worshipful Master  
1949



## Chapter XXIII

William James Mann, to you Jimmie Mann, first saw the light of day on February 1, 1906, at Stirling, Scotland. His brother, George Anderson, is also a member of La Brea Lodge.

Jimmie "the Man(n)" and his wife, Virginia, were married on February 11, 1933, in Los Angeles, California, and they are blessed with two splendid children, their son, Thomas Andrew Mann, born April 14, 1943, and their daughter, Pauline Virginia Mann, born October 7, 1945. The children are the "apples of his eye," and he gives a great deal of attention to them and their welfare.

Jimmie filed his application for membership in La Brea Lodge on Tuesday, February 1, 1927, on his 21st birthday. He was elected to membership on March 1, 1927. Initiated on March 8, 1927, Passed on May 17, 1927, and Raised on June 18, 1927. He probably was the youngest member for the next ten years during which he coached candidates each Monday and Friday.

Jimmie was appointed to the line of officers by W. J. Harvey in 1939, and over the ensuing years, with a few intermissions, he filled the various stations, which finally culminated in his elevation to the station of Worshipful Master in 1949.

During his adulthood, Jimmie has at various times been a member of the California National Guard, a member of the Order of DeMolay, a title examiner for the Title Insurance and Trust Company, Escrow Officer for the Bank of America in two of its branches and President and founder of the Realty Escrow Service Inc., which has its offices in North Hollywood. He has been very successful in his chosen profession and he is recognized and accepted as being an excellent escrow officer.

Jimmie, his pipe, and his somewhat prankish actions (ask George Burch), are one and a part of the same person and are inseparable, but with it all, Jimmie's integrity, sincerity and love for Masonry are exceeded by none.

Since your author by now has probably been sued by several P.M.'s for publishing their life history, we might as well extend the invitation to one more, and I purloined the following verse, which was written of and about Jimmie in one of the early issues of the Diplodocus:

### JIM'S IN LOVE AGAIN

Jimmie thinks he is forgetting  
A sweet damsel far away  
And imagines he is letting  
Time erase the things he'd say.  
And no doubt he's feeling lonely;  
Not as happy (he used to be).  
Won't acknowledge she's the "only,"  
She has gone to gay Paree.

There are many things he's learning  
 As time slowly ties the knot;  
 In his heart he must be yearning  
 For this girl, he's cast his lot.  
 He's not fickle as a pickle  
 In a barrel of brine and salt,  
 If his heart strings fail to tickle  
 When his mind is full of thought.

And he tells us he's not grieving  
 For a girl in Paris town,  
 But of course we're not believing;  
 He's a love-sick little clown.  
 And he tells us she's a winner,  
 And of kisses not missed;  
 And he's thinking of THE dinner  
 When he pledged his all, and kissed.

And they both sat there a-smiling  
 While the waiter talked in vain;  
 And her winning ways, beguiling,  
 Had him raving at the train.  
 But he says he is not sighing  
 In lonely, dismal nooks;  
 (I believe he's really trying  
 To remember how she looks.)

Now that we have given Jimmie a good send off, we will return to the record and examine what was in store for the ensuing Masonic Year.

### INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS

On Tuesday, December 21, 1948, the officers of La Brea Lodge for the ensuing Masonic Year were installed at West Lake Masonic Temple, 1810 West Eighth Street. Our good friends, Lee T. Mullen and Frederic E. Clark were our Installing Officer and Master of Ceremonies, respectively, and under their tutelage, the following were installed in their respective stations.

William James Mann . . . . .	Worshipful Master
. . . . .	Senior Warden
Robert Franklyn Borgan . . . . .	Junior Warden
George Woodward Burch, Jr. . . . .	Treasurer
John William Swank . . . . .	Secretary
Anton Gottfred Hookanson . . . . .	Chaplain
Vesper Augustus Bradfield . . . . .	Senior Deacon
Emil Orvil Ostrom . . . . .	Junior Deacon
Francis Carol Ford . . . . .	Marshal
Hugh John Cameron . . . . .	Senior Steward
Homer Osmund Parrish . . . . .	Junior Steward
William Edwin Jones . . . . .	Tiler

No, I did not make a mistake by not filling in the name of Ben Jetson Perry as Senior Warden. Ben, following his election to this station, but prior to the Installation of Officers, was struck by an automobile in a pedestrian cross walk, and for several weeks his condition was very critical. It was not

until later in the year 1949, that Ben was installed at a special ceremony as Senior Warden and by George W. Burch, Jr., P.M., as Installing Officer and Ray S. Smith, P.M., as Master of Ceremonies.

With the exception of Bill Wheeling, Master in 1926-27, Jimmie appointed more new officers to the line than any single Master, as you can see; he appointed Francis C. Ford, Marshal; Hugh J. Cameron, Senior Steward; Homer O. Parrish, Junior Steward; and before his year came to an end, and as the result of V. A. Bradfield resigning as Senior Deacon, he appointed John Christian as Marshal to fill a vacancy in this station which was occasioned by the advancement one station of all officers below the station of Senior Deacon. Over the succeeding years, each and all of the new appointees succeeded to the Oriental Chair in the East.

The august Board of Trustees consisted of Charles F. Laverty, Chairman, Russell Lee and Anton G. Hookanson.

Our old reliable Emil O. Ostrom again headed the staff of the Diplodocus.

In connection with the Installation of Officers, the retiring Master and the new Junior Past Master, Anton G. Hookanson, was the recipient of a Past Master's ring and his good wife, Joy, received an appropriate gift from the members.

Jimmie had a unique cake for the refreshment hour which followed the installation services. It was three feet long, two feet wide, and on it was inscribed the name, "La Brea Masonic Lodge," a replica of the Lodge seal. Incidentally, I should like to again see the seal used by the members as a lapel pin, as at one time was our practice. This cake was, indeed, a beautiful example of the culinary arts.

In checking the ancient archives of the Lodge, I find that Jimmie Mann was not only the first but the only Master to be installed in a Temple which was other than our permanent place of abode, to wit: Westlake Masonic Lodge. Jimmie had the novel experience, at least insofar as La Brea Lodge is concerned, of being the only Master who guided the destinies of the Lodge at two different locations; during the first part of his term we met in the Westlake Temple, but before the end of 1949, we met for the first time in our new Lodge quarters at 8338 Beverly Boulevard. Before some of the Charter members take me on because of the foregoing statement, let me say I am well aware of the fact that La Brea Lodge received its Charter in proceedings which were conducted in the Wilshire Temple, and hence, the foregoing statement is still historically correct.

Jimmie and Abe Allen, who was the first Chairman of the Coaching Committee, undoubtedly have coached more candidates than any other members. During the year the following were either elected to membership or raised and those with an asterisk before their names were raised:

\*Gage, George L.

Hatcher, Oscar S.

Hoke, Warren, Jr.

\*Lewis, Ralph L.

\*Anderson, George A.

\*Nicoll, James R.

\*Scapanite, Andrew O.

\*Smith, William R.

\*Belser, Jack E.

During the year, Charles W. Eckhart passed away in Houston, Texas, and Masonic Services were conducted at Forest Lawn, with John Swank, P.M., acting as Master and Ray S. Smith serving as Chaplain.

APRIL 5, 1949

Yes, sir! April 5, 1949, was an important occasion in the history of La Brea, for it was the date on which we met for the first time in our new Temple at Flores and Beverly Boulevard, and where we still meet. On this occasion, 225 of our members and well wishers from other Lodges assembled in our new banquet room. We could not possibly recount the names of all of the distinguished visitors who attended, without slighting others who were present. Among those present were Past Grand Master Rollie Miller, Past Grand Master Will Fisher, Inspector Fred Clark, Roy Bryan, Lee T. Mullen, John Monning, Master of Wilshire Lodge; Harold Blaine, Master of West Lake Lodge; Clyde Winslow, Master of South Gate Lodge; Walter Berger, P.M., Charles Listenwalter, P.M., and Stanley Cowin, P.M., of West Lake, Armin J. Bauerle, Master of Los Angeles Lodge No. 42; Earle C. Graham, P.M., Leo D. Epstein, P.M., Paul J. Cinquemani, P.M., all from Los Angeles No. 42.



Pity the poor "Master," as you will see from the following lamentation:

#### MASTERS' MESSAGES

Did you ever sit in silence,  
Kinda just all gone to smash,  
Just so lonesome and so homesick  
That the tears began to splash?

With the embers burning low-like  
As you open up your coat,  
And you kinda get to reading  
Messages Masters wrote.

While your eyes are wet and misty,  
And somehow you can't evade  
Thoughts of the past and present,  
And the promise that you made.

You may be joyful and contented  
And so happy you could bust;  
And you may be happier than you  
Would ever be with us.

But if anything should happen,  
I have only one request—  
Before they take me yonder  
'Neath the cedar trees to rest.

Will some one just in kindness  
Take those papers from my coat,  
And let me read in silence  
Messages Masters wrote.



An amusing letter appeared in one of the issues of the *Diplodocus*, and we will leave it to your imagination to establish who the author was:

"Scoopinhaggin, Calif.

May Deer Fren Joorge Birch,

I shoold took mey pen in han und wrote close to da paper und see of yew can ask for mey a couple of qvestions. Vhy do dey sez March comes in like a lion und gose hout like a lame. Mit spring in da aere is yew gone to be de whinner of dat piknik bassball teem agan, und vill Ruskell Lee be de unvorthie umposizion. Ve yust no ve vill hev som goot a time as dot las time. Yimminie Mann but dot vas funn.

Tatto Hoppinback the piture tooking Feller is vun svell guy. He vas fasst like litning vit dat schnaps schnaps bizines. I cee dos pitures und do yew ever look funny. Dey make mey to lawf hard some enyting.

I reed in da Dipladokus dat yew und dat Robinson guy is in knew bizinis. May cuzin Norman Overgaard tal may yew git knew name fer dat kitchen—yew call him Dick. Can he cook da beaf stew youst some goot as da ol straw boss Hay, and dot Vee Brandfiel feller too vas vun goot stewart unde he gott some Irish Svede helper I heer dot da call O'Strom—vot a combination.

Vell if yew don vant some more liters from may yust tol may unde don firgit to wrote to yewr ol shum.



—Ed I Thor"

#### DO YOU KNOW

La Brea Lodge;

Where brotherly love abounds

Friendships lasting.

Within your four walls

Are *green Acacia groves*;

Knowledge to gain,

Feeding everlasting pools of thought.

Think back at youth so gay,

You had not a yesterday.

Today? A useful life doth sway

You through the years of play.

Tomorrow? Ye gods, let's make it far away;

Life now, for right is might, I'll say!

I am a Mason;

Raised this midsummer afternoon

I go forth into the world

Seeing myself.

In shadows of *Acacia* trees.

My heart

Light and Joyous,

Rejoices too,

All the while

My soul bleats a little refrain,

"Time, time,

That drifts away so soon."



BEN JETSON PERRY  
Worshipful Master  
1950

## Chapter XXIV

Ben J. Perry, the "little man," physically only, a southern gentleman from Alabama, who still has his southern drawl, was born at Georgiana, Alabama, on October 26, 1911. Ben only pleads guilty to residing at Georgiana, Alabama, and Los Angeles, California.

In 1938, Ben married Muriel Estelle Whitcomb, and this family is blessed with three children, Barton, Dwight and Carlton. Incidentally, Ben's wife, Muriel, and her family for a number of years lived next door to Jimmie Mann, P.M., and his brother George, and according to our informants, Jimmie delighted in wheeling Muriel, who at the time was a baby, around the block.

Ben says that he has had no amusing experiences, either as a youth or as an adult, and he may be right, but I know a number of brethren who will vouch for the fact that he is a fisherman and hunter, par excellence, and a fair-to-middlin' card player, not to mention his minor activities as a crap shooter.

Ben during his adult life has been and is still employed by the Bank of America in an executive capacity.

Shortly before being installed Senior Warden of La Brea Lodge, Ben was involved in a serious automobile accident on Olympic Boulevard, and for a time it was a close race as to whether or not he would pull through, but the good "Father" tipped the scales in favor of Ben's living and we have all profited from our association with the man from Alabama.

### OFFICERS INSTALLED FOR 1950

The twenty-fourth Installation of Officers of La Brea Lodge was held Tuesday evening, December 20, 1949, with Wm. James Mann relinquishing the time-honored chair in the East to Ben J. Perry.

Ben's fellow officers were as follows:

Ben Jetson Perry . . . . .	Worshipful Master
Robert Franklyn Borgan . . . . .	Senior Warden
Emil Orvil Ostrom . . . . .	Junior Warden
George Woodward Burch, Jr. . . . .	Treasurer
John William Swank . . . . .	Secretary
Russell R. Lee . . . . .	Chaplain
Hugh John Cameron . . . . .	Senior Deacon
Homer Osmund Parrish . . . . .	Junior Deacon
Howard Dewey Scannel . . . . .	Marshal
Francis Carol Ford . . . . .	Senior Steward
John Roland Christian . . . . .	Junior Steward
William Edwin Jones . . . . .	Tiler

Our good friend and "adopted" member, Worshipful Frederic Edwin Clark, Inspector of the 78th Masonic District, did a marvelous job of installing officers, and our much admired Past Master, Ray S. Smith, nobly assisted as the Master of Ceremonies. Following the proclamation and the presentation of a new gavel to the Worshipful Master and the passing of the Parcels emblems, Brother Jimmie was presented with a Past Master's apron as well as gold certificate and a Past Master's jewel. His good wife, Virginia, was presented with an appropriate gift.

The Board of Trustees consisted of Russell R. Lee, Chairman, and Anton G. Hookanson and Wm. James Mann, as members. It has always seemed to me that we have over the years wasted the talents of the Board of Trustees as there are many valued activities which they can from time to time perform.

Ben Perry belongs to the Los Angeles Scottish Rite Bodies and is a member of Al Malaikah Shrine Temple.

During the year the following were elected and those with an asterisk before their names were raised:

- |                          |                        |
|--------------------------|------------------------|
| *Bennett, Norman A., Jr. | *Palmer, Walter E.     |
| *Cox, James C.           | Smith, Kenneth L.      |
| *Hahn, Norman R.         | *Hatcher, Oscar S.     |
| *Hahn, Theodore E.       | *Stevenson, Wendell M. |
| *Haney, William G.       |                        |

Walter E. Mast affiliated with La Brea Lodge during the year.



### "OUR BILL"

William Edwin Jones—Tiler

Born—January 2, 1878

Raised—October 24, 1916

Entered to Rest—May 15, 1950

To put into words the feeling that is and was in the hearts of everyone of La Brea Lodge over the passing of our beloved "Bill" is impossible. The many years of faithful service as Tiler and the diligent manner in which he served on the sick committee and various other assignments will not soon be forgotten.

In God's design of life for us,  
That He Himself has planned,  
There are so many hidden things  
We do not understand;  
But He would have us know His plan  
Is such a wondrous one,  
That when we do not understand,  
To say: "Thy will be done."



### PAST MASTER'S NIGHT

Tuesday, November 21, 1950, was the time and place scheduled for the conferring of the Third Degree on some lucky Brother by the one and only group, affectionately known as "Masters of the Past." Following the tradition of the Lodge, our Junior Past Master, Wm. James Mann, was in charge.

We were saddened to learn that on November 17, 1950, Brother Jay Otis Burnett, Master of La Brea Lodge in 1930, and who subsequently demitted to Ojai Lodge, where he served five terms as Master, passed away.

No, I have not forgotten that we held our Annual Muster in October, but history fails to record any of the outstanding events of this occasion, other than the fact that Most Worshipful Rollie W. Miller, Past Grand Master, was our distinguished speaker.



## CALIFORNIA MASONIC CENTENNIAL

In 1950, California Masonry observed the Centennial of the Grand Lodge of Masons of the State of California, and representatives from the breadth of the United States, as well as Canadian Provinces, were represented at the October Communication of the Grand Lodge of Masons of the State of California, held in the San Francisco Civic Auditorium. Befitting the occasion, elaborate plans had been worked out, and those who were fortunate in attending were amply repaid for their effort. La Brea Lodge was represented by its Master, Ben Perry, Robert F. Burgan, Senior Warden; Emil Ostrom, Junior Warden, George W. Burch, Jr., P.M. and Treasurer; John W. Swank, P.M. and Secretary; Past Masters Ray S. Smith, Russell L. Ray, Charles F. Laverty and Jimmie Mann; Francis C. Ford, Senior Steward, and Howard Scannel. While in attendance at Grand Lodge, La Brea's representatives were much in evidence at a large party held at the internationally known Press Club in San Francisco. Brother George W. Burch, Jr., was in charge of arrangements.



### LA BREA LODGE NOW PART OF NEW DISTRICT

In the rearranging of Lodges into numerous districts, effected by the Most Worshipful Grand Master Ellsworth Meyer in 1950, La Brea Lodge was transferred from the 78th to the 75th District, which is composed of the following Lodges:

Los Angeles Lodge No. 42  
Mount Olive Lodge No. 506  
La Brea Lodge No. 650  
Henry Knox Lodge No. 662

While we regretted losing membership in District 78, which was composed West Lake, South Gate, Wilshire, La Brea, Covenant and William D. Stephen Lodges, we are looking forward to the continuation of the same hearty cooperation and good fellowship we have previously experienced. In extending a hand of welcome to our new Inspector, Worshipful Russell Northrup, and the Brethren of the new 75th, we include a greeting to our friends and Brothers of the old 78th and say thank you Worshipful Frederic E. Clark for your many kindnesses and fine help.



### TAKE TIME

Take time to live; while waiting for a holiday, the capacity to enjoy it wanes.

Take time to think; it is both a source of power and a gyro and compass.

Take time to play; it is the secret of perpetual youth.

Take time to read; it is the cheapest short-cut to priceless knowledge.

Take time for friendliness; it can be the source of precious happiness.

Take time to laugh; it greases creaking wheels and lightens the load.

Take time to dream; every worthy dream adds a feather to your spirit's wings.



ROBERT FRANKLYN BORGAN  
Worshipful Master  
1951

## Chapter XXV

It may come as a surprise to some to know that Frank Burgan has the nom de plume Robert Franklyn Burgan, but now that we have recorded this fact, we will revert to calling him Frank.

Frank was born at Elwood, Indiana, on January 29, 1898, and during his sojourn on this mortal earth, he has at various times lived at Elwood, Bluffton and Indianapolis, Indiana, and Los Angeles, California. Frank attended Indiana University, located at Bloomington, Indiana, for two years. He says he recalls no youthful experiences or escapades and, hence, we will accept his assurance that whatever they may have been, it is just as well that we do not reduce them to print.

On August 2, 1930, Frank married Nelle Royar Wheeler, and since then they have been blessed with twin daughters, Patricia and Kathryn. Both of these young ladies are married to young men who belong to their church.

For many years Frank did research work for the Security Title Insurance Company, also the title department of the Right of Way Division of the State Department of Public Works; the title department of Los Angeles County Flood Control District, and in recent years he has been and still is realty agent for the Board of Education of the City of Los Angeles.

Frank was raised in Bluffton Lodge No. 145 in Bluffton, Indiana, in 1922, and demitted to La Brea Lodge in January, 1927, La Brea's first year. He was in the lodge all during his membership. He served on many committees and for a time was editor of the "Dip." Dependability, good judgment and thoroughness are among his outstanding characteristics.

### NEW OFFICERS INSTALLED

La Brea Lodge held its twenty-fifth installation of officers on December 19, 1950, with a capacity audience. Worshipful Louis L. Cunningham, Inspector of the 536th District, a co-worker and friend of Frank's, did a very fine and interesting job of installing the officers for 1951. Past Master Ray S. Smith acted as Master of Ceremonies, Past Master Frank Merrill acted as Honorary Marshal, and Past Master Charles Lavery was Honorary Chaplain.

The following corps of elected and appointed officers were installed in due form:

Robert Franklyn Burgan . . . . .	Worshipful Master
Emil Orvil Ostrom . . . . .	Senior Warden
Hugh John Cameron . . . . .	Junior Warden
George Woodward Burch, Jr. . . . .	Treasurer
John William Swank . . . . .	Secretary
George Leslie Gage . . . . .	Chaplain
Homer Osmund Parrish . . . . .	Senior Deacon
Francis Carol Ford . . . . .	Junior Deacon
Wayne Veatch . . . . .	Marshal
John Roland Christian . . . . .	Senior Steward
Howard Dewey Scannel . . . . .	Junior Steward
Henry Gustav Jacob . . . . .	Tiler

The current Board of Trustees was comprised of Anton G. Hookanson, P.M., Chairman, ably assisted by Wm. James Mann, P.M., and Ben Jetson Perry, P.M.

Following tradition, the incoming Master was presented with a gavel by his officers, and the Parcels buttons were passed. Ben Perry, as Junior Past Master, was presented with a Past Master's apron and a gold Past Master's Card. Past Master Frank Merrill then presented to Ben a Past Master's ring on behalf of the members of the lodge, and George W. Burch, Jr., P.M., presented an appropriate gift to Mrs. Muriel Perry. Speaking of a Past Master's emblem, it may be in the nature of practically any material object that the Junior Past Master may request. In La Brea Lodge, we have always given a ring, except for the few occasions on which a paid up life membership in other Masonic bodies was presented. One Past Master, Jay O. Burnett, had his Past Master's ring taken away from him at the point of a gun.

Tony Hookanson was appointed Editor of the *Diplodocus*.

The following were elected to membership and those with an asterisk before their names were raised:

Bicknell, Melvin E.  
\*Campbell, John  
\*Duckwall, Don A.  
\*Fransen, Ivar R.  
Hanson, George H.  
\*Jacobs, John R., Jr.

\*Kent, Paul A.  
\*Kraemer, Charles W.  
Lee, Douglas E.  
\*Meikle, John W.  
\*Olander, Roy E.  
\*Armstrong, Donald

Brothers Walter E. Klosterman and Hume B. Warner affiliated with La Brea Lodge during the year.

If time permitted, we would like to travel to the four points of the globe, if for no other reason than to meet our members who are as widely scattered as they were at one time confined to the proximity of Wilshire and La Brea Avenues. For example, Gordon Smith is in Korea, John Teeuw in Saudi Arabia, and Don Armstrong is in Australia.

The members of La Brea Lodge were shocked at the untimely death of Otto Endres, a very faithful friend and brother, who never lost interest in La Brea Lodge. His funeral was conducted by La Brea Lodge. We likewise note that Brother Adolph Frederick Knuebel passed away on March 23, 1951, as did Thomas Joseph Prouex, and to them we say "adios" until we meet again.

In our daily toils, we all too frequently lose sight of the fact that ours is not to choose the time for living or dying, but to perform our individual assigned mission in life for all too few years and while we are perplexed by the mysteries of life and death, yet we should always remember.

Not until the loom is silent  
And the shuttles cease to fly  
Shall God unroll the canvas  
And explain the reason why—  
The dark threads are as needful  
In the Weaver's skillful hand  
As the threads of gold and silver  
In the pattern He has planned.



## PAST MASTERS' NIGHT

Well, the has-beens did it again! For we once more met on May 22, 1951, to exemplify the ancient forms of Freemasonry on Brother John W. Meikle. P.M.'s Frank Merrill, Bob Robertson, Russ Ray, Ted Heinold, Jo Hurd, Wendell Harvey, Ray Smith, George Burch, Russell Lee, Tony Hookanson, Jimmie Mann and Ben Perry really did themselves proud.

## LA BREA PICNIC

The lodge held its annual picnic on June 10, 1951, at North Hollywood Park. This is always one of La Brea's most popular events of the year, as evidenced by the large turnout of members, their families and friends.



## 25TH ANNUAL MUSTER

### AND

## SILVER ANNIVERSARY

Another of La Brea's Annual Musters is now history, for on October 30, 1951, we combined our 25th Silver celebration and our 25th Annual Muster. We can look back on La Brea's first 25 years with pride and we can hopefully look forward to the next 25 years.

A great deal of time, effort and planning went into the arrangements for the Silver Anniversary and those in attendance were pleasantly surprised with a La Brea medallion, bearing a Masonic emblem and the seal of the lodge, and with the compliments of Hugh J. Cameron and K. O. Dean. This occasion is of sufficient historical importance, at least to the members of La Brea Lodge, to indicate a few of the important personages who honored us by their presence: Roy Bryan, Past Master of Cahuenga Lodge and Chairman of the Grand Lodge Necrology Committee, gave the invocation; Newcomb Condee, P.M. of Cahuenga Lodge and Chairman of the Grand Lodge Correspondence Committee; Fred Clark, P.M. of Wilshire Lodge and Inspector of the 530th Masonic District; Russell Northrup, P.M. of Mount Olive Lodge and Inspector of the 524th Masonic District; Lee T. Mullen, P.M. of West Lake Lodge and the first Inspector of La Brea Lodge. Brother George Burch, P.M., acted as Master of Ceremonies; Most Worshipful Rollie W. Miller, Past Grand Master; and Most Worshipful Ellsworth Meyer, Past Grand Master, delivered an inspirational address. Brother Meyer spoke on the symbolic search for light and the development of the individual. He explained how that which is lost may be found within ourselves.

Space does not permit the naming of all our members who attended, but special mention should be made that nine charter members of the thirteen who are still members were present. They were Wm. T. Wheeling, Master 1926-27; Wm. W. Wedding, Master 1931; Russell Ray, Master 1932; Ed Meister, Clyde C. Caillet, Hal Hall, Horace Barton, Lloyd Fruehling, and F. H. Schepler. Also present among the members of long standing and whom we seldom see, were Martin L. Thomas (Major), Jim McCrory, Walter Knoth, Clarence Knoth, Frank Ring, Donald Ruppe, Don Ladd, Reg Stevens, Ed Huefe (Major), Mark Beauchamp, brother-in-law of Ted Heinold, Bru Leonard and Art Schlanert.

## THE MASTER'S REPORT

Frank closed the year with an interesting report, which, as he states, is submitted without fanfare, the substance being as follows:

- 12 petitions for degrees have been read
- 2 petitions for affiliation have been read
- 12 first degrees have been given
- 11 second degrees have been given
- 9 third degrees have been given
- 4 demits issued
- 1 restoration
- 0 suspensions
- 3 deaths

February 20—Family night

April 24—Public Schools night

May 22—Past Masters' Night

June 5—Ladies' Night

June 10—Picnic at North Hollywood Park

Masonic Homes Endowment Fund quota exceeded

October 2—Ladies' Night

October 30—Annual Muster and Silver Anniversary observance

Frank closed the report with these words:

"May the sun be warm and kind to you,  
The darkest night some star shine through;  
The dullest morn a radiance bloom,  
And when dusk comes—God's hand to you."



## DO SOMETHING

Do something today to bring gladness,  
To someone whose pleasures are few.  
Do something to drive off sadness—  
Or cause someone's dream to come true.  
Find time for a neighborhood greeting  
And find time to delight an old friend;  
Remember the years are floating  
And life's latest day will soon end.

Do something today that tomorrow  
Will prove to be really worthwhile;  
Help someone to conquer sorrow  
And greet the new dawn with a smile—  
For only through kindness and giving  
Of service and friendship and cheer  
We learn the pure joy of living  
And find heaven's happiness here.

## SECRETARY EMERITUS

Now at last, we can reveal how, when and where the title Secretary Emeritus came to be conferred on Brother Lloyd Fruehling, who served La Brea Lodge so well and faithfully for so many years.

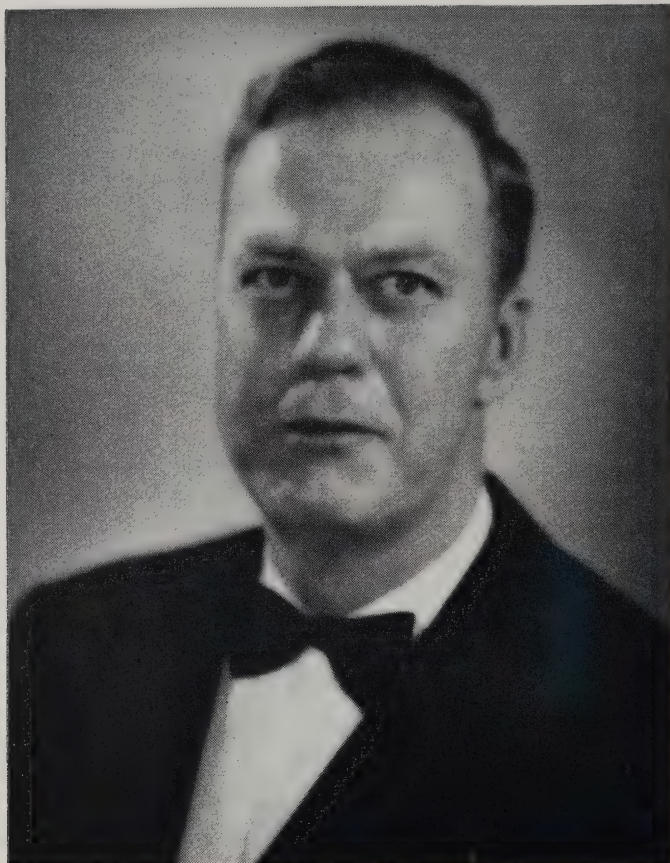
So far as I know, Lloyd acquired the "Emeritus" status by general acceptance of the members, rather than by an official action of the lodge, as there is nothing official in Masonry which recognizes or gives official standing to such a status once a brother has served his stewardship in a lodge. An "Emeritus" status is, however, one of respect and is generally accepted in the fraternity as a mark of distinction, reserved and deservedly conferred upon those who, through service, have contributed so much to promoting the welfare of the lodge. Be this as it may, La Brea Lodge in August, 1951, made official the status of "Emeritus" and voted to "hang" Lloyd and his picture in the banquet room, bearing the title, "Secretary Emeritus."

We have Lee T. Mullen, our First Inspector, and Wm. T. Wheeling, our first Master and second Inspector, who enjoy the status of Inspector Emeritus. These brothers richly deserve these honors.



### "DO YOU JUST BELONG"

"Are you an active member,  
The kind that would be missed,  
Or are you just contented  
That your name is on the list?  
Do you attend the meetings  
And mingle with the crowd,  
Or do you stay at home  
And crab both long and loud?  
Do you take an active part  
To help the Lodge along?  
Or are you satisfied to be  
The kind to "just belong?"  
Do you ever go to visit  
A member who is sick  
Or leave the work for just a few  
And talk about the CLIQUE?  
There is quite a program scheduled  
That means success, if done,  
And it can be accomplished  
With the help of everyone.  
So attend the meetings regularly,  
And help with hand and heart,  
Don't you be just a member  
But take an active part.  
Think this over, Member,  
Are we right or are we wrong?  
Are you an Active Member?  
OR—Do you just Belong?"



EMIL ORVIL OSTROM  
Worshipful Master  
1952



## Chapter XXVI

Emil Orvil Ostrom was born at Seattle, Washington, on June 22, 1905. While still an infant his family moved to Minneapolis, Minnesota, and we find that in 1935, he came west—whether it was because of or in spite of Horace Greeley, we do not know, but in any event, he spread his roots in Los Angeles, where he has been firmly anchored ever since.

While in high school, Emil was Cadet Captain of his High School R.O.T.C., but found time to take on the responsible job of student manager of athletics, and it was while he was attending the University of Minnesota that he met his prospective bride. On June 16, 1927, Emil took unto himself a wife, Esther Marie Johnson, and this happy couple was blessed with a daughter, Maria Yvonne Ostrom, who is happily married and resides in Whittier. Emil also reminds us that he is a full-fledged member of the La Brea Grandfathers' Club, and to qualify, he points with pride to two fine grandsons, John Neal and James Michael Nunnally.

Emil when requested to give us some of his amusing experiences, with considerable reservation on his part, confessed that the highlight of these experiences has been "cavorting" with the La Brea Past Masters in San Francisco, during Grand Lodge week, but we hasten to add such activities only took place in the evening.

Emil, prior to becoming associated with Adohr Milk Farms, was a Life Insurance Counselor and for over 18 years he has occupied a position of responsibility with Adohr Milk Farms, which for many years was headed by our own Harold Wakefield as Executive Vice-President and General Manager.

Emil belongs to the Los Angeles Scottish Rite Bodies, Royal Arch Masons, and Al Malaikah Shrine Temple, and is a member of Christ Church, Unity.

The 26th installation of officers of La Brea Lodge was held December 22, 1951, with Brother Frank Burgan passing the gavel to Brother Emil Orvil Ostrom. The other officers installed were:

Hugh John Cameron . . . . .	Senior Warden
Homer Osmund Parrish . . . . .	Junior Warden
George Woodward Burch, Jr. . . . .	Treasurer
John William Swank . . . . .	Secretary
Charles Yecsman . . . . .	Chaplain
Francis Carol Ford . . . . .	Senior Deacon
John Roland Christian . . . . .	Junior Deacon
Theodore Earl Hahn . . . . .	Marshal
Wayne Otis Veatch . . . . .	Senior Steward
George Leslie Gage . . . . .	Junior Steward

The installing officer was our Inspector, Worshipful Russell Northrup, Past Master of Mount Olive Lodge No. 506, and Worshipful Frederic Edwin Clark, Inspector of the 530th District and Past Master of Wilshire Lodge No. 445, was Master of Ceremonies.

Honorary Chaplain was Brother Ernest C. Wilson, pastor of Christ Church, Unity, and who subsequently became a member of La Brea Lodge.

After the proclamation by the Master of Ceremonies, the newly installed Master was presented with a gavel by his fellow officers, and the Parcels buttons were passed to the new Junior Warden, Senior Warden and Master. Junior Past Master Frank Burgan was presented with a gold Past Master's certificate by John Swank, Past Master, and with a Past Master's apron by our Master Emil Ostrom. Then, in token of high esteem and appreciation by the membership, George Burch, P.M., presented to Brother Burgan, P.M. (Jr.), a beautiful Past Master's ring, and also a token of appreciation on behalf of the lodge to Mrs. Burgan.

As Henry Jacob, our Tiler, was still on vacation in the East, his installation was postponed to a future date.

Tony Hookanson, P.M., was appointed editor of the *Diplodocus*, and the Board of Trustees was comprised of the following: Chairman, Wm. James Mann, with Ben J. Perry and Robert Franklyn Burgan being members.

During the year the following were elected to membership, and those with an asterisk before their names were raised:

- \*Beautrow, Frank S.
- \*Coddell, Jesse L.
- \*Lee, William G.
- \*Hemmes, Jesse M.
- Wadsworth, William A.
- \*White, William B.
- \*Bicknell, Melvin E.
- \*Hanson, George H.
- \*Hoke, Warren J.

Ernest C. Wilson was elected by affiliation.

#### PAST MASTERS' NIGHT

Past Masters' night on April 22, 1952, held a special interest this year, as P.M. Russell Lee, assisted by P.M.s in the other stations, conferred the Third Degree on Russ's son, Bill.

#### ANNUAL PICNIC

La Brea's Annual Picnic seems to increase in interest year after year and the 1952 picnic was no exception. Over the years we have held our picnics at the Covina Masonic Home Grounds, Lake Sherwood, Ladera Park, Plummer Park, Elysian Park, Griffith Park, but this year we really became swanky, as the picnic was held at the North Hollywood Los Angeles City Park. Horse-shoes were pitched on a newly measured court by one brother, who managed to take extra long steps for such short legs; balloon blowing, cracker eating, whistling, races, shoe hunting and the soft ball game provided plenty of interest and activity.

Four "Ladies' Nights" were scheduled during Emil's year. On April 1st Tom Knudsen showed movies of one of his hunting trips and narrated on his experiences in his usual jovial and interesting way. July 1st was the very successful "Pot Luck Dinner," in which the wives of the La Brea members proved their excellent culinary abilities. On September 9th Dr. Earl and Mrs. Wells enthralled the audience with the beautiful colored slides, as they presented their Orchid Show. November 11th the joint Armistice and Thanks-

giving Day program was highlighted by the inspiring talk given by Dr. Ernest C. Wilson, the author of many religious books, as he revealed to us some of his ideas of Masonry and religion, and presented excerpts from his book "The Other End of the Rainbow."

### 1952 HOMECOMING

October 28th was the date of our Annual Muster this year, and as in the past, we paid tribute to those who had departed from this earthly plane, as well as to renew old friendships and generally to have a good time. The Honorable Newcomb Condee, Judge of the Los Angeles Superior Court, was our speaker. We were also honored by the presence of our Past Grand Master Leon O. Whitsell (1938).

### 'ED. I. THOR"

Having served as Assistant Editor and Editor for several years it seems that on occasions Emil was short of material to fill the *Diplodocus* and would revert to his Scandiwhovian(?) accent. We are reliably informed that he wrote this and other messages from Scoopinhagen:

"Deer Members ov La Brea:

"Yumpin Yimminie I's been looking all over fer dot Mann guy, butt he haint arrived yet, but he cum I no. I sed hello tu Toni, Jonnie, George; tu one of de Smith Brudders, Ray, the short guy. Henry's cussin Fran, and Ole. I seed de rascal Lee and yo tu. Vun swell bunch of fellers—it is yust like de ol times. Hope soon I vill half de chance to again wisit vit you all.

My best vishes,

ED. I. THOR."

### THE VOICE OF THE MASTER

Greetings Brethren:

The twilight shadows deepen,

Another day is through.

The months have also spilled away,

Another year end, too.

It's also time I step aside,

And vacate that honored chair

For the new Master you've elected

Will soon be seated there.

I am grateful for the honor

That has been mine this year;

Your expressions of true brotherhood;

Warm hand clasps, words of cheer.

So as my year as Master ends,

My heartfelt thanks—I do express,

To you brethren, and the Supreme Grand Master,

For this year of happiness.

—Emil O. Ostrom, Master



HUGH JOHN CAMERON  
Worshipful Master  
1953



## Chapter XXVII

Hugh John Cameron, son of our own Hugh N. Cameron, who is so well and favorably known to most of us, was called upon to serve as Worshipful Master of La Brea Lodge, No. 650, F. & A. M., for the Masonic Year 1953. Hugh is a true son of the Golden West, having been born at Glendale, California, on December 30, 1919.

Hugh, being an extremely modest fellow, pleads that his life has been uninteresting, but we feel otherwise, if for no other reason than his marriage to Lenore E. Wiebe, on December 29, 1944. Lenore and Hugh have one son, John Ralph Cameron, who, to say the least, has captured the hearts of his paternal and maternal grandmothers.

During his short time on this earth, Hugh has found time to be a tool engineer in the aircraft industry during World War II, and both before and since then, he has been associated with his father in the retail jewelry business. Hugh is also a member of the Los Angeles Scottish Rite Bodies and the Los Angeles Junior Chamber of Commerce. For some time, he has been an officer of the Los Angeles Junior Chamber of Commerce, and has been a prime mover in the promotion of the Los Angeles Open Golf tournament, as well as other sporting events. He was first Chairman of the Advisory Council of Lawrence C. Kelley Chapter Order of DeMolay.

### LA BREA'S 27TH INSTALLATION

Those of you who missed La Brea's Twenty-seventh Installation of Officers on December 27, 1952, will be interested to know that a crowd of some two hundred people attended. Worshipful Russell Northrup, P.M. of Mount Olive Lodge No. 506, and Inspector of our 524th District, acted as Installing Officer. Brothers Ray Smith, Charles Laverty and Ted Heinold, Past Masters of La Brea Lodge, acted as Master of Ceremonies, and Chaplain and Honorary Marshal, respectively. This was Ted's last official act for his beloved lodge and his close friend, Hugh, for on January 12, 1953, he had a fatal heart attack.

The following elected and appointed officers were installed in due form:

Hugh John Cameron . . . . .	Worshipful Master
Homer Osmund Parrish . . . . .	Senior Warden
Francis Carol Ford . . . . .	Junior Warden
George Woodward Burch, Jr. . . . .	Treasurer
John William Swank . . . . .	Secretary
William Grant Lee . . . . .	Chaplain
John Roland Christian . . . . .	Senior Deacon
George Leslie Gage . . . . .	Junior Deacon
Hume Blake Warner . . . . .	Marshal
Theodore Earl Hahn . . . . .	Senior Steward
Charles Yecsman . . . . .	Junior Steward
Ivar R. Fransen . . . . .	Organist
Henry Gustav Jacob . . . . .	Tiler

Our new Chaplain has the honor of being the first son of a Past Master of La Brea Lodge, who has ever been honored by being appointed an officer in La Brea Lodge, and we congratulate both Bill and his father, Russ, although Hugh can claim the honor of being the first son of a member to serve La Brea as its Master. Incidentally, Hugh is the youngest Master ever to be installed in La Brea Lodge, this honor formerly belonging to Russell L. Ray.

The usual practice of the presentation of a gavel to the Master and the passing of the Parcel's buttons was adhered to. Our Junior Past Master, Emil Orvil Ostrom, was presented with a Past Master's apron, Past Master's gold card and a Past Master's ring on behalf of the lodge. The lodge also remembered his wife with a suitable gift.

We find that the *Diplodocus* had a new editor in the person of Theodore Earl Hahn, who was also Senior Steward.

The Board of Trustees consisted of Ben Jetson Perry, Chairman, and Robert Franklyn Burgan and Emil Orvil Ostrom.

During the year, the following were elected to membership and those with an asterisk before their names were raised:

Bachman, Leonard A.  
\*Brotemarkle, George  
\*Burch, George W., III  
Erdman, Erwin  
Haney, Ray E.  
Langton, David R.  
Swanson, Charles D.  
\*Whann, Welton B.  
\*Karlson, Gunnar I.  
\*Lee, Douglas E.  
\*Wadsworth, William A.

The following were elected by affiliation:

Fishburn, Alva E. (incidentally, he was a former member of La Brea Lodge and had previously demitted to Oakland)

Mortimer, Arthur E.

Brother Arthur E. Mortimer has the distinct honor of being the first Mason in California to hold a plural membership, adopted at the 1953 Communication of the California Grand Lodge, whereby a Master Mason of a Masonic Lodge in California, can belong to one or more California Masonic Lodges, and at the same time. Brother Arthur, therefore, still remains a member of Westlake Masonic Lodge.

The grim reaper during the year not only deprived us of our beloved Past Master Ted Heinold, but also of Walter Adam Karr, William Hawkins Stewart, Duane Arthur Thompson and William Foster Wilson, and to these brothers we say, "Adios" until we meet again.

#### IMPORTANT STATED MEETING

La Brea Lodge had the honor of being the host for Southern California Research Lodge, which, incidentally, was its first appearance before any Masonic Lodge. In 1952, the Grand Master of Masons of the Grand Lodge granted a Dispensation to two Research Lodges, one being located in Northern California, and the other in Southern California. In 1952, these lodges were duly chartered and they were chartered at identically the same day,

minute and second, and, hence, it can be said that they were simultaneously chartered. The function of these Research Lodges is to introduce new ideas, make suggestions, and generally create interest in Masonry. In other states similar programs have been operating with a great deal of success. Claude Morrison, Past Grand Master of Masons of the Grand Lodge of California, was the first Master of the Southern California Research Lodge, and served this lodge as its Master until his untimely death in the summer of 1953. All of the members of these lodges are well versed in Masonic teachings, many of them being Inspectors.

The year witnessed two new father-son teams in La Brea; Brother Welton R. Whann welcomed his son, Welton B. Whann, as did our Past Master George W. Burch, Jr., welcome his son, George W. Burch, III. The other father-son combinations, according to the records, are Hugh N. Cameron, raised March 27, 1928, and his son Hugh J. Cameron, raised April 18, 1944, Master of La Brea in 1953; Norman A. Bennett, Sr., raised October 6, 1930, and his son, Norman Bennett, Jr., raised July 18, 1950; Russell R. Lee, raised October 24, 1939, and his son, our present Junior Steward, Bill Lee, raised April 22, 1952. Incidentally, the Third Degree was conferred on Brother George W. Burch, III, with his father in the East assisted by Past Masters from over twenty different Masonic Lodges.

During the year, Brother Paul and Mrs. Kent joined the ranks of the proud grandparents club. Their daughter made them eligible for membership by presenting them with a granddaughter, a lovely lady by the name of Donna Lee Wright.

#### LA BREA LODGE BUILDING FUND

We have all looked forward to the day when La Brea Lodge would be living in its own, wholly owned Masonic Lodge, and while this dream may still be far off, yet at least a start has been made. In October, 1953, by appropriate action of the lodge, it was decreed that there be organized the La Brea Masonic Temple Association, a non-profit corporation. Several prospective donors have evidenced a sincere desire to make substantial donations to this organization. The Board of Directors for this new organization consists of George W. Burch, Jr., P.M., John W. Swank, P.M., Russell R. Lee, P.M., Frank F. Merrill, P.M., and Hugh J. Cameron, presently Master of La Brea Lodge.

#### PAST MASTERS' NIGHT

The night of April 21, 1953, was no exception to the proficiency of the Past Masters, and in fact, they admit it. Brother Bill Wadsworth was the candidate. The Past Masters in attendance were:

William T. Wheeling, Master in 1926 and 1927  
Russell Ray, Master in 1932  
John Swank, Master in 1941  
Ray Smith, Master in 1944  
George W. Burch, Jr., Master in 1945  
Charles Laverly, Master in 1946  
Russell Lee, Master in 1947  
Anton Hookanson, Master in 1948  
James Mann, Master in 1949  
Ben J. Perry, Master in 1950  
Frank Burgan, Master in 1951  
Emil Ostrom, Master in 1952

## 1953 HOMECOMING

Tuesday, October 27, 1953, we once again met for the purpose of observing our Annual Muster, or "Homecoming." Brother Ernest Roll, District Attorney for Los Angeles County, was our guest speaker. In accordance with the traditions of this occasion, many of our members whom we see too seldom, exerted that extra effort even to the point of driving quite a few extra miles so that they might be present to answer to their names when the roll is called.

### A FRIEND

If he will add one touch of grace  
Unto your conduct or your mind,  
Or help you to a higher place—  
Then to his petty faults be blind.  
If he inspires one noble thought  
By which your spirit can ascend,  
Then brother mine, I'd say you ought  
To cherish him and be his friend.

If in his play you find him fair;  
If to his vows you find him true;  
If walking with him anywhere  
You have no dread of what he'll do;  
If in his company you can feel  
Yourself a better man to be,  
Then you have come to friendship, real,  
A comrade worth your love is he.

If he's higher bound, and tries  
To reach the finer things on earth,  
Yet does not common truths despise,  
Or sneer at men of lesser worth;  
Then be he rich or poor, my brother,  
Stay by him to journey's end;  
It's friendship bound within the cover,  
For all this takes to make a friend.

Our old dependable Wm. E. Peuterbaugh wrote the above article on "Friendship," in one of our early bulletins.

### A MASON

Are you the kind of a Mason whose trust is always in God;  
A man, a brother whose faith is strong, ever rising o'er the sod?  
Do you meet him on the level, are you acting on the square?  
Are you ever plumb—and willing to do your share?  
Are you loyal to the order, are you master of yourself?  
Are you travelling ever eastward toward wisdom's golden "shelf"?  
If "yes" is your answer to the questions asked herein,  
Then, brother, you're a Mason—you deserve to win.

—CEE BEE GEE.



## UPHOLDING THE CONSTITUTION

Are all Masons entitled to the protection of our Constitution? Yes, so long as they act in accordance therewith. There are a few who neither respect, support nor obey the Constitution and edicts of the Grand Lodge under whose refuge they are enjoying rights and privileges accorded every Mason. Some disregard the provisions as to the rights of others, and they are usually the first to demand its shield for themselves. Some raise their voices in their own behalf and insist on the overriding of the constitutional processes of Masonic Law for their relief. Emotions are played upon in an effort to create a sentiment which shall support a setting aside of the rules governing the Fraternity for the benefit of the individual.

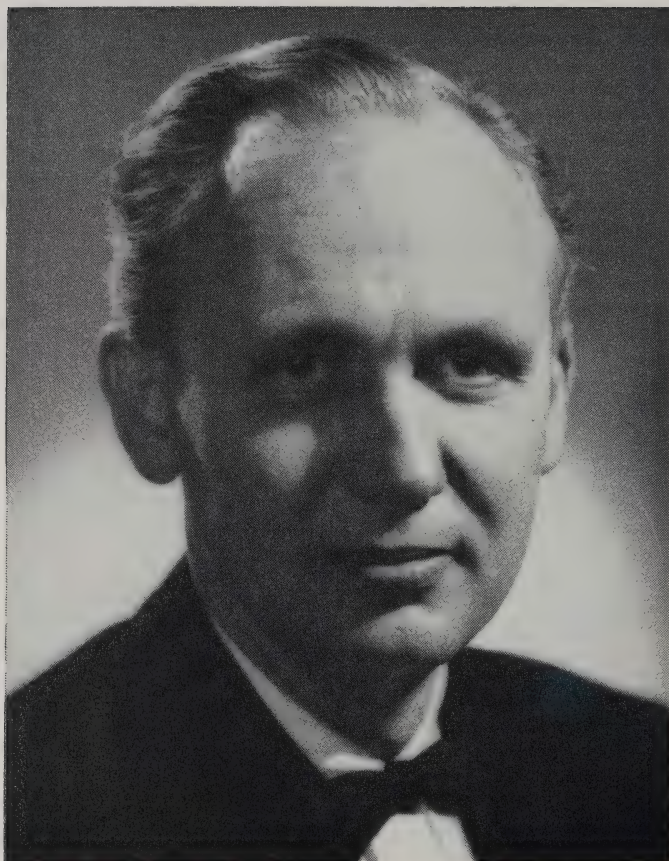
It is gratifying to know that only a very few attempt to abrogate a set rule or law handed down from time immemorial. We look back to the time when they were first admitted into the Fraternity, and wonder at the deficiency of the investigating committees in not guarding the outer doors. Radicals should not be able to gain admission under a veil of pretended fraternal feeling for the Fraternity. Once they are admitted they begin attempts to override all that is sacred and honorable in the Brotherhood. Eventually, they are brought to their right senses by a correction of their irregularities by proper admonishment on the part of those who know best. We live and learn, and occasionally are forced to prove that the principles of Freemasonry will live longer than any individual who may be honored as a member of the Order.

There are individuals and organizations of men who do not believe in brotherly love; the upholding of any constitution. They often resort to a systematic and conscienceless action of violence to broadcast propaganda to arouse the emotions of those less informed individuals who are easy to convince that a right is wrong, and who are always willing to adhere to anything detrimental to government.

Any man or group of men who attempt to spread propaganda detrimental to the interests of Masonry is violating the Constitution of the United States. Good government has always been founded upon the same principles as the superstructure of Freemasonry is builded, and that is for the good of the brotherhood of man.

There are recorded rules and laws today in the Masonic Fraternity as in ages now passed. Therefore, let each one of us adhere to those regulations and recognize the good deeds of our brother, and admonish him in his shortcomings, and be ever ready and willing to stretch forth a helping hand and assist him by proving that the right road is the easiest one to travel. Should he ignore the way all are supposed to travel in this life, he is not entitled to recognition as a part of the Fraternity, and may be treated as any outsider who has not obligated himself to abide by and conform to all the laws handed down to every Mason.

He must submit to the Masonic Constitutional authority and not seek to destroy its teachings and principles. Any attempt to destroy its fundamentals is nothing more or less than seeking to annihilate the precepts given to us for the good of all mankind.



HOMER OSMUND PARRISH  
Worshipful Master  
1954

## Chapter XXVIII

The Masonic Year 1954 was no exception to the high quality of leadership that La Brea has been invested with since its inception, and as man differs from one another, so it has been and will continue to be in the men who have the privilege of serving their Lodge as Master.

Since the founding of La Brea Lodge, we have been singularly blessed with the caliber of men who have served as Masters. No two were alike in their over-all characteristics, but this has all been for the good. These men, in temperament, have varied from men possessing firmness, yet tempered with kindness, others were strict disciplinarians, yet tempered with a code of justice; still others who have been primarily ritualists, but who at the same time have commanded respect for being broad-minded; sales executives who have been blessed with a superabundance of energy and vision; and still others who have possessed other characteristics, but above everything else, each and all of them have been deeply devoted to promoting the welfare of La Brea Lodge and its members.

The occupation of those who have served La Brea Lodge as its Masters is indeed interesting:

Wm. T. Wheeling, Master 1926-27, C.P.A.

Wm. H. Parcels, Master 1928, accountant, title examiner, executive and Captain in the U. S. Navy in World War II.

Wm. H. Barker, Master 1929, accountant for Southern California Edison Co.

Jay O. Burnett (now deceased) Master 1930, chiropractor.

W. W. Wedding, Master 1931, realtor.

Russell L. Ray, Master 1932, sales executive.

Zellner O. Hart (now deceased), Master 1933, banker.

Ted A. Heinold (now deceased), Master 1934, accountant and corporation executive.

C. B. Goodridge (now deceased), Master 1935, accountant and corporation executive.

W. Lloyd Laumann, Master 1936, motion picture executive.

Jo D. Hurd, Master 1937, printing executive.

Dave M. Evans, Master 1938, real estate developer and executive, and Commander in U. S. Navy, World War II.

Wendell J. Harvey, Master 1939, sales executive.

George F. Meitner, Master 1940, C.P.A.

John Swank, Master 1941, engineer with Southern California Edison Co.

W. E. Robertson, Master 1942, subdivider and builder.

Frank F. Merrill, Master 1943, executive of Standard Oil Co. of California.

Ray S. Smith, Master 1944, printing executive and leader in printing industry.

George W. Burch, Jr., Master 1945, Attorney at Law and active in many Masonic activities.

Charles F. Laverty, Master 1946, executive with Mercury-Lincoln dealers and formerly a reader in the Christian Science Church.



Russell R. Lee, Master 1947, banker and real estate developer.  
 Anton G. Hookanson, Master 1948, accountant and laundry executive.  
 William James Mann, Master 1949, banker and President of Escrow Company.  
 Ben Jetson Perry, Master 1950, banker.  
 R. Franklyn Burgan, Master 1951, title examiner and executive, land department, L. A. City Board of Education.  
 Emil O. Ostrom, Master 1952, executive with Adohr Milk Farms.  
 Hugh J. Cameron, Master 1953, jeweler and active with L. A. Junior Chamber of Commerce.

Homer Osmund Parrish, Master 1954, second cameraman, motion pictures. Thus, you can see many occupations and professions represented, and doubtless future years will see still more occupations and professions represented, but so far, the accountants and bankers are in first place, at least so far as numbers are concerned.

This chapter started out with the thought in mind of telling about our new Master, Homer O. Parrish, and here goes.

Homer was born in Pierre, South Dakota, on August 10, 1911. At the age of 2 years, Homer and his family moved to Sioux Falls, South Dakota, and from Sioux Falls, they moved to Salem, Oregon, and then to Santa Monica, California.

Homer came of pioneer stock, and while living in South Dakota he thought nothing of going to school in blizzard weather in winter, and in the summer—such fishing, and what swimming holes. When Homer came to California he kept up his fishing and swimming, but to these activities he added the Boy Scouts, and finally Senior Patrol Leader.

On May 18, 1936, Homer married Mabel Virginia Hunter at the Unity Church, Los Angeles, California. Homer and Mrs. Parrish are the proud parents of Keith Arlen Parrish, born May 4, 1939, and Adrienne Lorraine Parrish, born May 4, 1939.

Talk about a "beau brummell,"—Homer is the "boy." He is an expert tap dancer. We find that Homer's life avocation has been that of a Motion Picture Laboratory Technician, a Motion Picture Cameraman, and he is presently with the Consolidated Film Studio and our good Brother Shimmie Shimer is his "boss."

Homer has generously contributed his pictorial abilities over the years, and many of the Lodge pictures, including Past Masters of recent years, are a splendid illustration of his fine art work.

## INSTALLATION

The Twenty-eighth Installation of Officers for La Brea Lodge, for the Masonic Year 1954, was held at our Lodge Temple, 8338 Beverly Blvd., on Tuesday, December 15, 1953.

The recently elected and appointive officers were installed in due form, as follows:

Homer Osmund Parrish . . . . .	Worshipful Master
Francis Carol Ford . . . . .	Senior Warden
John Roland Christian . . . . .	Junior Warden
George Woodward Burch, Jr., P.M. . . . .	Treasurer
John William Swank, P.M. . . . .	Secretary
Frank Sidney Beautrow . . . . .	Chaplain
George Leslie Gage . . . . .	Senior Deacon



Theodore Earl Hahn . . . . .	Junior Deacon
William B. White . . . . .	Marshal
Charles Yecsman . . . . .	Senior Steward
William Grant Lee . . . . .	Junior Steward
Ivar Rudy Fransen . . . . .	Organist
Henry Gustav Jacob . . . . .	Tiler

The August Board of Trustees, which incidentally is always composed of Past Masters, includes: Robert Franklyn Borgan, Chairman, Emil Orvil Ostrom and Hugh John Cameron.

Our beloved Bill Wheeling acted as Installing Officer and our reliable Ray S. Smith acted as Master of Ceremonies. We always enjoy seeing these good brothers perform their work not only efficiently but in an interesting manner.

During the year, the following were elected or raised and those with an asterisk before their names were raised.

*David Roy Laughton	*Richard Hilliard
*Leonard Albert Bachman	*Sylvester Le Roy Ostrom
*Charles Delwin Swanson	*John Gordon Nogle
*Ray Edward Haney	*William Jacquelin Baker
*Erwin Erdman	*Donald Eugene Hance
*Howell Dudley Thorpe	*Donald Keith Smith
*Bruce Raymond Woodward	*Richard Franklin Albain

The following member affiliated with La Brea Lodge during the year:  
James Carl Crowson

#### FATHER-SON DINNER MEETING

February 2nd, served a twofold purpose, first it paid due respect to two of our greatest presidents, George Washington and Abraham Lincoln, February being the month of their birth, and second, our Master designated this occasion as a Father-Son affair. It was only fitting and proper that we have as our speaker, Brother Judge Wm. B. McKay, who besides being a Judge of the Los Angeles Superior Court, is a renowned speaker and scholar as were both Washington and Lincoln; formerly was the World head of the De Molay, and at present, he is serving as a National Director of the De Molay. This meeting brought forth a large turn out of fathers and sons, and is a practice which should be repeated in future years.

#### ANNUAL MUSTER

The good fellowship, which always is with us at La Brea, is always at its best at our Annual Musters, and our Annual Muster of October 26, 1953, carried on this excellent feeling of "Brotherly love." Besides the usual dinner with all of its trimmings, we were highly honored in having Frank Stern a 33° Mason, a member of Pentalpha Lodge, No. 202, F. & A. M., of California, and a public figure in California over a span of many years, was our honored guest and his kindness was such that his audience readily responded to his stirring address.

The Annual Muster this year brought to a successful culmination our hopes and visions which had been with us since the starting of our Lodge, to have our Lodge history compiled and printed. The La Brea Masonic History, starting with 1926 and ending with the Masonic Year 1954, is now a reality, for as of the date of this Muster, the History is available in book form for all to see and enjoy.

## CALIFORNIA FREEMASON

The Grand Lodge of California, at its 1953 Communication adopted a far reaching policy, when it elected to publish quarterly and as the official Publication of the Correspondence Committee of Grand Lodge, the California Freemason, Judge Newcomb Condee and our own Past Master, George W. Burch, Jr., being members of this hard working Committee. Three issues have been published to date, and they have been favorably received, and so great an interest has been evidenced, that a number of Lodges, at their own expense, have purchased individual copies in order that all of their members might have an opportunity of reading this interesting program. Brother Ray Smith, P.M., rendered valuable assistance in planning the design and art work for the cover, which, incidentally, is patterned after the frontpiece of the Diplocus, and we are indeed flattered.



### DID YOU KNOW?

—that our Junior Past Master, Hugh J. Cameron, has been re-elected Vice President of the Junior Chamber of Commerce.

—that La Brea's genial secretary, John Swank, recently completed his first year as President of the Southern California Masonic Secretaries' Association.

—every year when we believe that the first edition of La Brea's history should be published, something happens, but so help us, "we have resolved that this is to be the year," and so "help me Mark Hannah" it sure is.

—the current Masonic Year will not be fully recorded for posterity, as the history will be in print, we hope, in time for the 1954 Annual Muster, and hence, due recognition cannot be given to those elected, raised and affiliated, after the October Stated Meeting, but in future editions such recognitions will be extended, as well as giving proper recognition to any outstanding event which may transpire in these months.

—we do not assume to be infallible in our research, and hence, if there are any inaccuracies, please accept our apologies and we can assure you that they were unintentional.



Thus ends this First Book of History  
of La Brea Lodge. May it be per-  
petuated to the end that the origin and  
traditions of this Lodge may never be  
lost with the passing of time.

# La Brea Master Masons

1954

A. W. Adams  
Jack M. Adams  
Joseph O. Adams  
J. H. Alen, Sr.  
Richard F. Albain  
Lt. Col. C. M. Alson, A.G.C.  
T. J. Anderson  
Elmo H. Anderson  
G. Alex Anderson  
Ralph Arnason  
Dr. John T. Avery

Leonard A. Bachman  
Dr. Charles A. Bailey  
Dr. A. W. R. Barck  
W. H. Barker  
Horace J. Barton  
Merrill F. Bates  
Frank S. Beautrow  
Mark L. Beauchamp  
J. E. Beeson  
Harold H. Bell  
N. A. Bennett  
Norman A. Bennett, Jr.  
Robert C. Bentine  
Frank J. Bernard  
H. A. Bicknell  
Melvin E. Bicknell  
Gilbert H. Bishop, Sr.  
H. J. Bishop  
Duane C. Bontecou  
Joseph I. Boylen  
Paul E. Brackett  
V. A. Bradfield  
Ernest C. Branch  
George S. Brotemarkle  
George W. Burch, Jr.  
George W. Burch, III

R. F. Burgan  
W. E. Burke  
Myers P. Butte  
M. E. Butterfield  
  
Clyde C. Caillet  
Hugh J. Cameron  
Hugh N. Cameron  
John Campbell  
Richard Carlisle  
Dr. Dean M. Carroll  
Neville B. Challoner  
John E. Christensen  
John R. Christian  
J. F. Clare  
Hartley R. Claytor  
Alfred M. Cockrell  
H. L. Colby  
Russell D. Collings  
Jesse L. Cowdell  
C. C. Cowin, Jr.  
James C. Cox  
Ray W. Cox  
Col. James C. Crowson

K. O. Dean  
John H. Donaldson  
J. Ralph Donoghue  
Richard H. Doremus  
Don A. Duckwall  
C. Dunkelberger

E. W. Earl  
Louis P. Erickson  
Kenneth F. Ervin  
L. J. Ervin  
Barry Evans  
David M. Evans

Dr. Louis Felsen  
W. E. Ferrell  
Al Fishburn  
J. R. Fleming  
Francis C. Ford  
E. W. Forrow  
Ivar R. Fransen  
Lloyd H. Fruehling  
Wm. L. Funck

L. W. Gaertner  
George L. Gage  
Edward Gallaudet  
James D. Garrigues  
F. L. Gerew  
Maurice E. Gladson  
John M. Golden  
Jack L. Gosmann  
Herman B. Graves  
Ralph H. Gray  
Everett S. Green  
Herbert S. Gustafson  
Morris M. Guthrie

N. R. Hahn  
Theodore E. Hahn  
Harold C. Hall  
Wm. P. Hall  
Donald Hance  
W. Ford Hanes  
Ray E. Haney  
W. G. Haney  
Geo. H. Hanson  
C. H. Harbes  
R. H. Harris  
Wendell J. Harvey  
O. S. Hatcher  
Charles W. Helm  
Jesse M. Hemnes  
Le Roy Henderson  
Keith L. Herb  
B. M. Hill  
Richard Hilliard

Joseph W. Hobbs  
Warren J. Hoke  
A. G. Hookanson  
I. E. Hoover  
Maj. Edward C. Huefe, USMCR  
Harry W. Huntsman  
J. D. Hurd  
Thomas M. Hurst

Claude Ingham

Henry G. Jacob  
John R. Jacobs, Jr.  
H. C. Jacobsmeyer  
Gustav A. Johnson  
James M. Johnson  
Harry F. Jutz

Gunnar T. Karlson  
John M. Kendall  
Philip C. Kenmore  
Paul A. Kent  
Dick Kitchen  
Dr. James H. Kittredge  
John H. Klenke  
J. H. Klentzman  
W. E. Klosterman  
Merritt P. Kneifel  
Clarence V. Knoth  
Walter W. Knoth  
A. H. Koebig, Jr.  
Emil H. Koehl  
Charles W. Kraemer

Alfred H. Lacy  
Donald McK. Ladd  
D. R. Laughton  
W. Lloyd Laumann  
Charles F. Laverty  
D. Everett Lee  
L. C. Lee  
Russell Lee  
William Douglas Lee



William G. Lee  
Irving P. Leigh  
Arthur B. Leonard  
R. H. Lewis  
Ralph L. Lewis  
Donald J. Lindsay  
Robert A. Lowe  
Royal G. Lowe  
J. M. Lowell  
Robert L. Luther

William James Mann  
Merle J. Markel  
Robert D. Marsh  
Glen G. Marshall  
Dee H. Mason  
Walter E. Mast  
J. G. McCrory  
L. R. McDonald  
W. W. McLean  
Harold M. Meier  
Lt. John W. Meikle, USMC  
Edward J. Meister  
George F. Meitner  
Frank F. Merrill  
Joseph Michalek  
B. Milo Mitchel  
Arthur E. Mortimer  
C. B. Murphy  
C. M. Murphy

Dr. J. R. P. Nicoll  
Chester J. Nowak  
R. W. Nugent

N. J. Odegaard  
Roy E. Olander  
P. D. Orem  
Emil O. Ostrom

J. B. Palmer  
W. E. Palmer

William H. Parcels  
Homer O. Parrish  
Willis D. Peebles  
Francis W. Pelren  
B. J. Perry  
Leonard J. Peters  
Waldo C. Petty  
Wm. Peuterbaugh  
Leo B. Pfeiffer  
G. F. Phillips  
G. J. Pillow  
J. R. Pinkerton  
James A. Pisciotta  
Walter T. Plummer  
Roscoe H. Pool

T/Sgt. George C. Raidt  
Russell L. Ray  
R. H. Redmond  
Hoyt Reed  
J. C. Rhinehart  
W. G. Ricord, Jr.  
Frank Ring  
Nelson E. Roberts, LCDR, USN  
H. S. Robertson  
Noel R. Robertson  
W. E. Robertson  
Kenneth H. Rogers  
Alvah W. Ross  
Hearst J. Ross  
O. W. Ruddy  
Donald E. Ruppe

H. D. Scannel  
Andrew O. Scapanite  
Frank H. Schepler  
Arthur H. Schlanert  
Paul R. Schoenwald  
R. L. Seaman  
Richard N. Seland  
Frank B. Shankel  
V. Kenneth Shimer

Donald K. Smith  
J. O'Hara Smith  
Kenneth A. Smith  
Ray S. Smith  
William R. Smith  
D. M. Spear  
Reg. E. G. Stevens  
Wendell M. Stevenson  
Loyd C. St. John  
Carl A. Stone  
John W. Swank  
Charles D. Swanson  
George C. Swartz

Hatto Tappenbeck  
E. M. Taylor  
John W. Teeuw  
Joe M. Templeton  
Carl H. Thomas  
Martin L. Thomas  
R. S. Thompson  
Howell D. Thorpe  
Eugene A. Tompkins  
George C. Tyler  
Robert V. Uhlik

Wayne Veatch  
E. P. Vernon

William A. Wadsworth  
Harold S. Wakefield  
Fred E. Walrod  
Hume B. Warner  
W. W. Wedding  
Eugene F. Weisel  
Dr. Earl W. Wells  
Wm. C. F. West  
R. Welton Whann  
W. B. Whann  
William T. Wheeling  
Wm. B. White  
Albert L. Wilson  
Dr. Ernest C. Wilson, D.D.  
John H. Winch  
Bruce R. Woodward

Chas. Yecsmen

E. H. Zilles

# *Future History*

# *Future History*



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